Daily Report

Central Eurasia

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FBIS-SOV-95-220 *15 November 1995*

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Key Developments

Yeltsin Interviewed on Election Issues

LD1411150895 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Nov 95

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Before his meeting with [Kazakh President] Nursultan Nazarbayev today, [Russian President] Boris Yeltsin gave an interview to our correspondent. [video shows Yeltsin smiling, dressed in suit and tie, crossing curtained room to shake hands with unidentified correspondent; Yeltsin stands unaided beside correspondent for duration of interview]

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] Hello!

[Correspondent] Good afternoon, Boris Nikolayevich. I am glad to see you looking like anything but an invalid. How are you feeling? How do you feel, personally?

[Yeltsin] Well, on the whole the restoration of my health is going fine. All that foolish idle talk in the U.S. mass media and in our communist mouthpiece, the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS with regard to me needing an operation really was idle talk. Nothing is required of me. Some time is needed — I mean, perhaps a little more... [Yeltsin pauses] I am on the way to recovery and my recovery will be absolutely complete — just like before the illness.

[Correspondent] You talk about time, Boris Nikolayevich, and yet you do so much work in the hospital here. You have signed so many documents and you have had so many meetings — with the prime minister, with the leaders of other countries — that one does not imagine you needing time to recover!

[Yeltsin] Probably. Well, then, I start work at six in the morning. In the morning I work with assistance on all the documents which have mounted up over the 24 hours — there is quite a pile of them. I rework everything. I sign everything I need to. If I disagree with something I send it back, and so on. I speak on the telephone. Then I have two or three meetings in the course of the day. In short, then, I am holding the wheel of this great ship that is Russia, I can feel it, and I have my finger on the pulse.

[Correspondent] I would like to take the opportunity of this meeting to put a very important question to you, Boris Nikolayevich. Now, on the eve of the [State Duma] elections, many parties and movements are saying that the elections should be postponed, that it is not yet quite legal with regard to the elections. What do you think?

[Yeltsin] Well, I have already told you and I repeat that I am against postponing the elections. Both they and the presidential election should be held on schedule. As for the presidential election, I recommended that the Federation Council — [Chairman Vladimir] Shumeyko — when he was here, should make a decision on the date for the presidential election in June of next year. With regard to the elections to the State Duma and the composition of the Federation Council, ultimately the two chambers, two kindred chambers of the same state, and their two chairmen must agree among themselves on the texts of these laws. If there are two or three criticisms being traded between the sides then a conciliation commission should clear up those matters and the elections should be held. That is my firm opinion.

[Correspondent] The opposition is, on the whole, greatly gaining in strength now. And today's opposition could be victorious at the elections.

[Yeltsin] Well, what does victory mean? Will they get more than 50 percent? They will not! We are talking about, let us say, Russia Is Our Home with Rybkin and others, so to speak, getting, say, 20 percent. I am talking approximately. Then, say, the Communists get 10 percent or 12 percent maximum. Well, then, this multipolar pattern is a normal phenomenon in the Duma, so to speak.

[Correspondent] So there will be no dominant group?

[Yeltsin] No dominant group. Every effort must be made and I will be meeting Rybkin in a few days' time and we will have a very serious conversation to finally agree the text of the laws with Shumeyko and adopt them — adopt them in order to hold the elections and not fear the odds swinging in favor of the Communists or the LDPR [Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia], you understand. They will get a percentage but that is natural. We do not need a unipolar society. We had it before and it proved to be negative. [end recording]

Election Blocs Begin Campaigning on Public TV

LD1511101895 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0908 GMT 15 Nov 95

[By Tamara Ivanova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 15 (Itar-Tass) — Election blocs standing for parliament have begun their canvassing campaign on television today. On Wednesday morning, the Russian public television (ORT) featured Ivan Rybkin, Grigory Yavlinskiy and Aleksandr Rutskoy who outlined their election platforms.

Under the existing legislation, each of the 42 election blocs registered by the Central Electoral Commission

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is given one hour on the air free of charge. This rule applies only to state run television and radio companies, including " ORT," "Rossiya", "St. Petersburg-5 channel" TV companies and "Mayak", "Yunost", "Radio-1", "Radio Rossiya" radio stations.

Free air time is provided on a basis of a lottery between election blocs held at the Central Electoral Commission last Friday [10 November]. Regional state-owned radio and television companies held the lottery at regional electoral commissions.

Apart from one hour of free air time, any radio and television company, regardless of the form of property, might give some air time for political advertising for pay. The Central Electoral Commission had made inquiries about the cost of this kind of advertising beforehand to control expenditures on TV canvassing by different blocs and movements.

"ORT" and "Rossiya" TV channels provide air time to elections blocs both in the morning and in the evening, while the St.Petersburg TV channel will make such broadcasts from 21:00 until 22:00 p.m. daily.

The ORT company had suggested that election blocs carry on debates in the form of round table discussions. However, this proposal was not approved by five out of eight election blocs. The press service of the ORT company told Itar-Tass that the company had showed due respect for the opinion of the majority of these blocs. Nevertheless, the ORT hopes that a number of participants in the election race will support its proposal about the form of TV canvassing.

Director General of the ORT company Sergey Blagovolin said that debates and round table discussions would prevent canvassing from turning into a competition between demagogueries and populism similar to the election campaign in 1993.

Deputy chairman of the Central Electoral Commission Aleksandr Ivanchenko said that under the law on free air time given to the canvassing campaign the mass media is entitled to choose forms and genres of canvassing on agreement with parties and blocs.

Ballot Paper Listing of Parties Confirmed

MM1511113395 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 2

[Unattributed item: "By Way of A Comprehensive List"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Central Electoral Commission confirmed 13 November the order in which the electoral associations and blocs are to be placed on the ballot paper for the election of State Duma deputies. The various bodies appear in the following order:

1. The "'Women of Russia' Political Movement" electoral association.

2. The "'Derzhava' Social Patriotic Movement" electoral association.

3. The "'Duma 96' Sociopolitical Movement" electoral association.

4. The "Transformation of the Fatherland" electoral bloc.

5. The "Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov" electoral bloc.

6. The "Russian Nationwide Movement" electoral association.

7. The "'NUR' ('Svet') [Light] All-Russia Muslim Public Movement" electoral association.

8. The "Federal Democratic Movement" electoral association.

9. The "Election bloc Compromising the Leaders of the Party for the Protection of Children (Peace, Good, and Happiness), the 'Russian Women' Party, the Orthodox (Faith, Hope, and Charity) Party, the People's Christian Monarchy Party, the Party for the Union of Slav Peoples, the 'Mother Earth' Party of Rural Laborers, the Party for the Defense of Invalids, and the Party of Victims of the Authorities and the Deprived" electoral bloc.

10. The "Interethnic Union" electoral bloc.

11. The "'Stable Russia' Sociopolitical Movement" electoral association.

12. The "Generation X [Pokoleniya rubezha]" electoral bloc.

13. The "My Fatherland" electoral association.

14. The "For the Motherland!" electoral bloc.

15. The "'Common Cause' Nonparty Voters Political Movement" electoral bloc.

16. The "Independents' Bloc" electoral bloc.

17. The "'Russia Is Our Home' All-Russia Sociopolitical Movement" electoral bloc.

18. The "Pamfilova-Gurov-Vladimir Lysenko (Republican Party of the Russian Federation)" electoral bloc.

19. The "'YaBLoko' Public Association" electoral association.

20. The "'Forward, Russia!' Sociopolitical Movement" electoral association.

21. The "89 (89 Regions of Russia)" electoral bloc.

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22. The "'Kedr' Ecological Party of Russia" electoral bloc.

23. The "Russia's Democratic Choice-United Democrats" electoral bloc.

24. The "Party of Russian Unity and Accord" electoral association.

25. The "Communist Party of the Russian Federation" electoral association.

26. The "Stanislav Govorukhin Bloc" electoral bloc.

27. The "Association of Russian Attorneys" electoral association.

28. The "National Republican Party of Russia" electoral association.

29. The "Social Democrats" electoral bloc.

30. The "Power to the People!" electoral bloc.

31. The "'Congress of Russian Communities' Sociopolitical Movement" electoral association.

32. The "Trade Unions and Industrialists of Russia-Union of Labor" electoral bloc.

33. The "Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR)" electoral association.

34. The "Election Bloc Compromising the Leaders of the Party for the Defense of Pensioners and Veterans, the Party for Eradicating Crime — Law and Order, the Party for the Defense of Health Care, Education, Science, and Culture, the Party for the Protection of Youth, the Association of Free Trade Unions, the Party of Justice, and the Environmental Protection Party" electoral bloc.

35. The "Party of the Self-Government of the Working People" electoral association.

36. The "Communists-Working Russia-For the Soviet Union" electoral bloc.

37. The "Beer Lovers' Party" electoral bloc.

38. The "Ivan Rybkin Bloc" electoral bloc.

39. The "Party of Economic Freedom" electoral association.

40. The "'Peoples' Union' Party" electoral association.

41. The "Agrarian Party of Russia" electoral association.

42. The "'Christian Democratic Union-Christians of Russia' Political Party" electoral association.

Election Guidelines

Satarov Addresses Election Law Flaws

MM!511104095 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 2

[Interview with Presidential Aide Georgiy Satarov by Olga Solomonova; place and date not given: "The Law Should Be Improved and the Elections Not Postponed. Russian Federation Presidential Aide Georgiy Satarov Answers TRUD Correspondent's Questions"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Solomonova] Of late many deputies, political analysts, and journalists have begun talking in unison about the imperfections in the Election Law and even about the possible postponement of the elections. In your view, Georgiy Aleksandrovich, can all the problems currently being faced by electoral associations, the Duma, the Federation Council, and the Central Electoral Commission be regarded as an election crisis?

[Satarov] I would not use the word "crisis." On the contrary, I would call it a clarification. You will agree that it is a good thing when an increasingly broad group of people starts to become aware that it is not just a question of the elections themselves as such, but also the procedure governing those elections is very important. It is no accident that people say that democracy is a matter of procedure.

Obviously, a law that has caused so many problems needs to be improved. I think that the term "election legislation crisis" would be more accurate here. But there is no great tragedy in this, it is quite surmountable. The situation as regards the law on the formation of the Federation Council is difficult, but it can also be resolved, I think. The president has made his move. Now it is up to the Duma. Nor would I regard the problems with the registration of electoral associations as a crisis. They have been overcome, albeit with the help of the Supreme Court.

[Solomonova] However, the idea that the elections might be postponed is increasingly polarizing the positions of political forces and politicians. A few days ago Viktor Chernomyrdin and Vladimir Shumeyko, for instance, voiced opposing views on this point....

[Satarov] As I understand it, two options are being discussed. The first involves the adoption of certain amendments to the law, which will not entail the postponement of the elections. For instance, the introduction of a second round of voting in the first-past-the-post system and the counting of the votes "against everyone...." The more radical option involves postponing the date of the elections.

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If the Constitutional Court, say, deems the law to have violated certain rights, the elections will not go ahead until those rights have been restored in legislation.

[Solomonova] A few days ago the Supreme Court sent such a petition to the Constitutional Court and the only option now is to wait for a ruling. What option do you consider the optimum?

[Satarov] The one that does not involve the postponement of the elections — amendments to the law. I have already specified two. The deputies' action group proposal contains another norm: If all the electoral associations that get past the 5-percent barrier do not get in total half the votes cast, the federal district elections shall be deemed invalid.

What danger does this present? Primarily, that the Duma cannot start work. This norm is only acceptable with a second round of voting on the proportional system.

There is also a third category of amendments involving public supervision of the elections. Here too considerable improvements can be made without affecting the election date.

[Solomonova] It is being suggested that the 5-percent barrier be lowered or removed altogether for electoral associations.

[Satarov] That is a fundamental decision. I see nothing abnormal in that. Although those suggesting it are being reproached for doing this out of fear of not being among those given a share of the Duma seats. I do not rule out these motives, but there is a very important consideration here — the legislative body must be representative.

After all, the introduction of the proportional system was devised to counterbalance the first-past-the-post system, whose main negative aspect is its reduced representative nature. The proportional system is more representative. But on one important condition: a well-developed multiparty system. If such a system does not exist, the proportional system has precisely the opposite effect.

Back in spring and summer 1993, when this combination of the proportional and first-past-the-post systems was being discussed, Vyacheslav Nikonov and I tried to persuade Viktor Sheynis that in our conditions it would not promote the formation of a multiparty system. And so it has proved. I always said and I am ready to reiterate that the proportional election system is objectively harmful today.

[Solomonova] In your view, should it be changed now at the height of the election campaign? Is there time for substantial improvements in the law?

[Satarov] Of course not now, because it is quite obvious that this would result in the elections being postponed. But later, yes. And if it is a question of amendments as to the means of ascertaining the election results — two rounds, counting the votes "against everyone," etc. — those changes boost representation and render the law more democratic. Deputies still have their November session; these amendments could be made in that time.

[Solomonova] As for the elections, what is causing most disquiet in the Kremlin — the future oppositionist makeup of the Duma or its potential poor legitimacy?

[Satarov] Both, of course. Understandably, the turn that events take may depend on the composition of the Duma (broadly speaking). It is also clear that the possible illegitimacy of the Duma could also destabilize the situation. It is not impossible that the elections might take place, the results be summed up, and it then be established that they had been underrepresentative — around 10 percent in the first-past-the-post system and 20-30 percent in the proportional system. In legal language that constitutes a violation of election law and the principle of people's power. If the elections are followed by a petition to the Constitutional Court and it acknowledges the said violation, the election results will be called into question. And this could mean a situation like that in October 1993, say.

[Solomonova] However, no one has doubted the legitimacy of the current Duma. Why do you think that this might happen to the new one?

[Satarov] Because in past elections eight out of 13 associations got into parliament and the representation in the proportional section at any rate was fairly high. But the point is that the situation in 1993 is fundamentally different when it comes to the election law from the situation this time. Then the election campaign was of short duration, some potential candidates were barred from the elections after the events of September and October, and all the negative aspects of the law simply could not be realized. Now the threat of underrepresentativeness is quite a real one.

[Solomonova] So, there is less disquiet over the forecast composition of a new lower house elected under the present law?

[Satarov] Forecasting is a thankless business here. But, according to the most general estimates, the possible composition of the Duma actually causes fewer misgivings. If both the lower and upper house of parliament have a steady opposition majority of 66 percent of the votes, i.e., two-thirds — the critical mass — that is dangerous from the viewpoint of the presidential authorities.

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[Solomonova] Of course, the president's veto can be overcome in such situations without any particular effort, i.e., it does not work.

[Satarov] But the opposition has extremely slim chances of doing that. It cannot, of course, be ruled out that the next Duma may be more oppositionist than this one, but within critical limits. Although I see nothing good in the opposition's making up 55 percent, say, rather than 66 percent. But at least that is not explosive.

[Solomonova] Parliamentary deputies have different but well-known opinions of the election law. What is the presidential side's position? Does it back the initiative to change the law?

[Satarov] The presidential side is in a very disadvantageous position here. Remember the situation that arose with the adoption of the election law. Then the president was accused of holding up the law, wanting to block the elections, bring down democracy in Russia, etc. Today any activeness on our part will be interpreted quite clearly as the president trying to wreck the elections. And that is not his intention at all.

[Solomonova] There is also another interpretation, namely that the president is sick and his entourage and apparatus are beginning behind his back to provoke actions that could result in the elections' being postponed or thwarted. Notwithstanding the fact that the president himself has repeatedly spoken of the need to hold them at the set time. Are you familiar with that view?

[Satarov] Of course. And it is fairly hard to argue against it. The only thing that I can say is that the first statements containing the initiative for the law to be changed came not just before the president's illness but even before his trip to the United States. There were newspaper articles even earlier. I do not know whether this might be an argument for those in favor of the conspiracy theory. What is more, this fundamental undertaking could not be developed without the president's knowledge. His view is clear — that the elections should go ahead.

It is practically impossible to deny the conspiracy theory. No matter what evidence you cite against this idea, people usually say that this only proves how sophisticated plotters are and how well they disguise themselves.

[Solomonova] Since we have already gotten onto this shaky ground of conspiracies and intrigue, tell me why there have been increasingly frequent attempts of late to cause clashes between the prime minister and the president.

[Satarov] This reproduces a certain general law of political life. There are various groups of influence within any politician's entourage trying to either link this politician with someone or set him against someone in an endeavor to increase their own influence....

Forecasts & Commentary

Lebed: West 'Has Nothing To Fear'

BR1311144395 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 12 Nov 95 p 10

[Interview with General Aleksandr Lebed, leader of the Congress of Russian Communities, by Fiammetta Cucurnia; place and date not given: "Lebed Approaches Kremlin: I Will Save Russia"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Cucurnia] General, the Congress of Russian Communities is gradually scattering its adversaries: It is in the lead in all the opinion polls, becoming increasingly popular...

[Lebed] Well, actually, they grant us 15 percent of the votes. Be that as it may, yes, we realize that we do enjoy a strong following.

[Cucurnia] Nobody since Yeltsin has managed that. What is your secret?

[Lebed] We want to restore common sense and dignity to our country. We want to be led by our minds and our hard work, to be able to be real masters of our land, and to act accordingly. Evidently these aspirations are widespread in Russia.

[Cucurnia] Your party misses no opportunity to criticize the economic policy of recent years, and many people fear that one of your objectives in the event of victory would be to bring everything back under rigid state control, halting privatization.

[Lebed] Here in our country an outright capitalism of the nomenklatura [as published] has taken shape under our very noses. State officials have always stolen in Russia. Except that previously they were obliged to steal carefully, like so many little moles, so as not to draw attention to themselves and not to force their party colleagues to act as spies. Now, however, having seized power, the officials have destroyed the state for the sake of their own vested interests; they have introduced the laws that they needed and have appropriated the wealth. Vast wealth. The officials who possess both power and wealth do not care about the country's interests. That is why I think that our only solution is to take back the state and use it to regulate the transition to the new market economy and democracy. At present there is no market economy and no democracy in Russia, and I am not sure that they will exist soon. I do not know whether I will see them in my lifetime.

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[Cucurnia] That sounds like a communist declaration.

[Lebed] You are mistaken. For 19 years I was a steadfast communist. But I have not been one for a long time. I dislike too many things about communist ideology. They look to the past, whereas we look to the future. They talk about class feeling and the subdivision of ownership, whereas we want national pacification. They propose Marxist atheism, whereas we dream of Russia's spiritual rebirth.

[Cucurnia] But your election programs are almost identical. Are you thinking about allying with them after the election?

[Lebed] Why should I announce to the four winds with whom I intend to ally? That is Zyuganov's speciality. He only needs to bump into you by accident on the stairs, and the whole world hears about it. No. We shall see. The election will take place, and then we will decide.

[Cucurnia] But do you rule out a coalition on the Left?

[Lebed] I do not rule anything out. We are prepared to cooperate with all the political forces on which Russia's future depends, including the communists. But this will be hard work, not ideology.

[Cucurnia] General Lebed, your national-patriotic stances cause some fear in the West.

[Lebed] I am not Zhirinovskiy. The West has nothing to fear, no reason to be afraid. Our party was formed on entirely different bases. It was formed in order to defend the interests of Russia's 148 million citizens, 120 million of whom are Russians. Our is the most numerous nationality, and there is nothing to be done about that, but the Tatars, Bashkiris, Kalmikis, and so forth are part of our same people. This is how it is, for historical reasons, and so it will remain. You never hear any talk about nationalism in our party.

[Cucurnia] Under what circumstances could the danger of a third world war emerge?

[Lebed] If NATO were to decide really to move closer to our borders. It would be wise now to adhere strictly to the famous principle, "try to do no harm." Hippocrates was the first to state it.

[Cucurnia] Are you the author of the television advertising spot?

[Lebed] No, I do not like it. That bar is rusty, you know. I would paint it.

Fedorov Discusses Movement, Rivals, NATO Membership

BR1311141795 Rome L'UNITA in Italian 13 Nov 95 p 10

[Interview with Forward, Russia! leader Boris Fedorov by Maddalena Tulanti in Moscow; date not given: "Never Again a Communist Russia"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow — [passage omitted] [Tulanti] Mr. Fedorov, why did you call your movement "Go, Russia!" [Forza Russia]? Does [Forza Italia Chairman] Berlusconi have anything to do with it?

[Fedorov] He has nothing to do with it. What you translate as "Go" ["Forza"] actually means "Forward" ["Avanti"]. We are not acquainted with Berlusconi's plans or ideas, nor have I ever met with him, and the Italians do not have an exclamation mark, either... But if we could win as many votes as Berlusconi did, we would not mind. Unfortunately, we do not have any television studios or a soccer team, either. I envy him only for that.

[Tulanti] What difference is there between your movement and those of Gaydar and Yavlinskiy?

[Fedorov] If we were in Britain, we would be the Conservatives, Yavlinskiy would be Labor, and Gaydar would be the Liberal Democrats. In the United States we would be the Republicans and Yavlinskiy would be the Democrats, whereas Gaydar would be more like an independent force. In other words, we are the most conservative, the toughest. Our stance on the market economy is stiffer, unequivocally in favor of the free market, with no concessions. When we criticize the budget — unlike Yavlinskiy, who says that he accepts 1 percent inflation but would even tolerate 3 percent — we say that 1 percent is not bad, but 0.1 percent would be much better. But we do have some factors in common. On social policy it is difficult not to agree with many of the things advocated by Yavlinskiy, and out disagreements concern only our degree of determination to achieve our programs rapidly and resolutely. I used to be a bureaucrat, and I think that we should theorize less and work harder. And once a decision has been made we must shoulder the responsibility for it. So I hope that the time will come when some of our parties, whether for demographic or for other reasons, will disappear, and only Yavlinskiy, Gaydar and we will remain. Then it will be like in the other Western countries.

[Tulanti] Is it true that you challenged Zhirinovskiy to a duel?

[Fedorov] It is bad to insult women...

[Tulanti] But surely you were not in earnest...

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[Fedorov] Of course not. A few days ago we were on the same radio discussion program, and he told me that he would not agree to settle matters by fisticuffs. He behaved very decently to me perhaps because, knowing him as I do, I came with a large, heavy beer tankard lent to me by the Beer [Lovers'] Party. I put it on the table and when he asked me what it was for I told him that if he thought of throwing a glass at me, as he did during an earlier debate, I would put an end to "Zhirinovskiy-ism" at a stroke. He then went on to complement me profusely. The fact is that he is a coward.

[Tulanti] The communists are expected to win the election. What do you think?

[Fedorov] I think that the opinion polls are distorted. This, because if 100 percent of voters had turned out in Volgograd, the communists would have gained 190 percent because 99 percent of those who do not turn out to vote would never choose the communists. Look at the communist rallies: The average age of those attending is 65; it is a party that has virtually no young people, and if a party has no young people it does not have a future either. Unless they change their program, unless they become a major social democratic party, they have no future. True, the opinion polls do say that, among those who have decided to vote, the communists enjoy the most support, but they will not go above 10-12 percent; in fact they will suffer losses.

[Tulanti] What is your forecast in your own regard?

[Fedorov] We are likely to gain over 5 percent, but there are too many unknown factors. I am not liked by Chernomyrdin or by the Kremlin. They prefer Zyuganov or Zhirinovskiy to be speaking on television. I am considered more dangerous. However, being acquainted with the situation in the regions, I have already visited 5 cities, and we are already among the leaders, if only for the quantity of documents we issue. We have distributed 2 million manifestos and 5 million little calendars bearing my picture. We are among the leaders as far as letters of support are concerned. Of course, it is a young, recent movement; if we had more money and more time I would have combated the front runners too. But there is no democracy in Russia yet...

[Tulanti] But it is said that your main attention is focused on the presidential elections...

[Fedorov] Unlike Yavlinskiy, I do not intend to compete personally. I accept coalitions, I am willing to cooperate even with the present government, as long as they behave properly. In view of the present balance of forces, I have little chance of winning the presidential elections. I am a banker by profession, and it is not proper for a banker to become involved in a losing undertaking. It all depends on concrete situations. If we win a large number of votes in the December election, if the other democratic movements support us, then maybe. But our immediate objective is to gain a few dozen seats in the new Duma, to take charge of two or three parliamentary committees, to adopt a resolute stance and to continue working, because I am absolutely sure that our formula is very strong, and if we have a few more years available, we will win everyone over. Nobody will escape, apart from the mentally ill.

[Tulanti] Where will you win the most votes?

[Fedorov] Mainly in the big cities. Moscow, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Samara, Rostov, Saratov, and other industrial centers. Obviously we do not enjoy support in the countryside. This, even though I was surprised to discover that we are in the lead in the Amur region. I have never been there, nor do I intend to go there, but who knows why they like us there. It all depends on specific cities. We have 75 offices, 50 of which are really efficient. In Yakutia we have nobody, nor in Chukotka, but it does not matter. Nor do we have anyone in Chechnya, but it does not worry us. In the Sverdlovsk oblast we have offices in 18 cities. In St. Petersburg we have appointed candidates to all the districts, both in the oblast and in the city. But we are liked by many people. Look, people here have sent us R1,000, R6,000, R25,000... Is that not a good sign?

[Tulanti] Would you be more trustworthy to the West than any other liberal?

[Fedorov] I do not know. We are fighting for a strong Russia. I do not know whether that will please everyone in the West. This, because, unlike Gaydar, I have no intention of remaining silent when certain things happen. For instance, we are of the opinion that Russia should join NATO, and once we are in it nobody will bombard the Bosnian Serbs without even notifying us. Of course we do not intend to declare that we are only with the United States, or only with G-7. From a common-sense standpoint — if it exists in the West, which I sometimes doubt — our program makes it clear that what we are proposing is a normal policy, very similar to the Western experience, obviously adapted to our own lifestyle. They must realize that if we come to power we will pay our debts and will not take any more loans from the IMF because they are pointless, and that when we come to power we will really open our doors to foreign capital, not as happens now. Furthermore, we will establish an order that will at last permit the West not to fear us as a factor of instability, even though we will doubtless argue about some things. For instance, whatever the West may think, Ukraine is part of Russia, it is our homeland, it is mother Russia. Let us state in

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the constitution that we must unite — not by force and not by means of tanks; but we refuse to remain silent on this. I think that it would be in the West's interests to have a Russia that is not the same as it is now — a strong, civilized Russia, integrated into the security and economic system, in which case it will not have the impression of being confronted by enemies. Against whom does NATO exist now? Against the Bosnian Serbs? I very much doubt it. We suspect, rather, that it exists against us. Why do they not invite us to joint NATO...?

[Tulanti] What arguments would you use to win over a communist, or one of Zhirinovskiy's or Yavlinskiy's patriots...?

[Fedorov] I would say to a communist: I worked on the CPSU Central Committee, I very much like communist ideas: They are beautiful, attractive; I would like an earthly paradise too. Excellent, I am in favor of it. However, I know that there is no country that has built a communist paradise, and until we know how to build it, let us at least build a life such as people enjoy in Italy: 45 square meters of apartment space per person, two cars per family, and vacations in the sun in the Canary Islands. When we have all that, we will talk about building communism. Or socialism, as people prefer. Let whoever disagrees raise his hand. And I do not know a single person who disagrees. The Communist Party was a state in Russia, which is why we do not criticize any CPSU members — God save us from purges such as those in Chechnya or the Baltics. We welcome everyone, irrespective of what they have done in the past; the important thing is to want to do good. We would remind those in the USSR who want to turn back of the 50 million who died over 70 years, the concentration camps, the civil war, the collectivization... And if anyone tells me that life used to be better, I will reply that for 17 years I lived in a komunalka, a shared dwelling. Why did communism not give me an apartment? Who was able to join a university unless he enjoyed favoritism? We will take honest communists with us in order to forge ahead. As for Yavlinskiy, he is good, pleasant, attractive to women, but is he capable of putting Basayev in prison? No. I can. What about Zhirinovskiy? What with his kissing [pornographic movie star] Cicciolina, hitting women in parliament, kissing Dudayev, threatening attacks on Japan, who believes him any more?

[Tulanti] Who is your most fearsome adversary?

[Fedorov] The point is that there are too many parties. Be that as it may, the most fearsome are Zyuganov, Chernomyrdin, Zhirinovskiy, and now Lebed. But the general is a serious adversary as long as he remains silent. But as soon as he starts to speak...

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Grachev Holds Press Conference on Yeltsin Meeting

MM1411131595 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Mikhail Pogorelyy: "Defense Minister on Results of Meeting with Russian Federation President"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister, held a news conference Friday [10 November] afternoon at which he told journalists about his 90-minute working meeting with President Yeltsin. According to the minister, Boris Nikolayevich himself "is able to work and is in good shape, he has the whole situation in the country and the Armed Forces under control, and is issuing clear, sound orders as the supreme commander in chief." As for the questions discussed, Pavel Grachev reported to the president first and foremost on the results of his talks with Pentagon chief William Perry regarding options for Russian participation in the Bosnian settlement. Boris Yeltsin said the defense minister had done a good job and fully approved the steps being taken in this area by the Defense Ministry.

In Pavel Grachev's estimation, the Federation Council, which, according to the Constitution, has to give the go-ahead to the employment of Russian troops outside the country, is disposed to give almost 100-percent approval to our brigade's peacekeeping mission in collaboration with (not subordination to!) NATO forces. Meanwhile that brigade's servicemen, formed on the basis of the airborne assault unit in Naro-Fominsk, is in a state of 6-hour readiness for departure to Bosnia, although in reality the Russian-NATO planning organs in Mons still have many questions to resolve in the next four to six weeks (read on page 3 our interview with Colonel General Leontiy Shevtsov, Russian deputy leader of the peacekeeping operation in former Yugoslavia).

Army Gen. Grachev also reported to the president on the changes in the designation of flank and rear areas agreed with William Perry under the Treaty on Conventional Armaments in Europe (Perry, for his part, promised to use the considerable U.S. influence on the NATO allies to ensure that they treated Russia's concern with understanding). An accord was reached whereby in the south the territories of Volgograd and Rostov Oblasts, Krasnodar Kray, and Adygey will be redesignated rear rather than flank areas, while in the north Vologda, Novgorod, and Pskov Oblasts will be similarly redesignated.

The defense minister also informed Boris Yeltsin of the realities of the Army's life today and the difficulties it is overcoming. Notably, in connection with the damage caused in the Far East Military District and the Pacific Fleet by the onslaught of the elements, the president ordered the immediate preparation of a government directive allocating them state budget resources of 12 billion rubles [R] and R23 billion respectively. Progress in implementing the edict to reduce the Armed Forces' authorized strength to 1.7 million (the actual strength will not exceed 1.55-1.6 million men) was also discussed, as was the possibility of further reducing the Armed Forces' actual strength in 1996.

Pavel Grachev reported to the Russian president on the situation in Chechnya and on troop operations. Boris Nikolayevich, the minister reported, confirmed that leadership of the federal forces' actions in Chechnya remains with Internal Affairs Minister Anatoliy Kulikov and stressed the priority of peaceful means for solving the problem. However, he firmly pointed out that all cases of firing on troops should be recorded and punished. The president instructed the defense minister to take every measure to prevent casualties among Armed Forces' personnel.

The minister also talked about the situation in the Dniester Region, where organizational measures have succeeded in bringing the motorized infantry division stationed in Tiraspol up to 90-percent strength. The Defense Ministry now intends to use it as a peacekeeping division on the territory of Moldova; its units could replace peacekeepers from the Leningrad and Volga Military Districts, particularly, the minister noted, since this division was not included in our operational plans, while manning by draftees from Russia makes the servicemen pretty impartial toward the local population. The minister also reported that all the structures illegally set up in the Dniester Region by the former 14th Army commander, which — in violation of all regulations — engaged in intelligence, counterintelligence, and sabotage activity, have been eliminated.

The defense minister concluded by informing journalists about his upcoming meetings and the military cooperation agreements being planned with Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus.

General Shevtsov Interviewed on NATO Liaison Role

MM1411131995 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 3

["Exclusive Interview" with Colonel General Leontiy Shevtsov, first deputy chief of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff Main Directorate for Operations, by Mikhail Pogorelyy in Brussels and Moscow; date not given: "General Leontiy Shevtsov Is First 'One of Us' in NATO" — first two paragraphs are KRAS-

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NAYA ZVEZDA introduction; last paragraph is editorial note]

[FBIS Translated Text] A paradoxical situation has developed today: While a dozen states are lining up wanting to join NATO, Russia's military representative has already started work in his office at the bloc's High Command in Mons near Brussels without any fuss or publicity. For a year, as envisaged by the joint NATO-Russian peacekeeping operation in the former Yugoslavia. A precedent has nonetheless been set. And the Russian leadership and its Armed Forces have entrusted cooperation with the North Atlantic bloc's military structures to Colonel General Leontiy Shevtsov, first deputy chief of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff Main Directorate for Operations.

Your KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Mikhail Pogorelyy met with Gen. Shevtsov in Brussels and in Moscow. Leontiy Pavlovich politely agreed to tell our newspaper's readers about his far from run-of-the-mill mission.

[Pogorelyy] Comrade General, you have been working at NATO headquarters for a month now, organizing cooperation with them. Do you think that NATO is still Russia's military adversary?

[Shevtsov] Yes, I do think NATO is an enemy, but it is a potential enemy. As a General Staff officer I simply have to consider all the scenarios for whence a threat could come. Politicians may say what they like, but then they ask: Why are we paying for your upkeep, why do we need an Army and its brains — the General Staff — when they are not ready at the right moment.... And NATO could be one potential source of threat — that cannot be ruled out.

However — and this is also a reality that must be taken into consideration — the Soviet Union no longer exists, nor does the Warsaw Pact. The United Nations has not secured peace in the former Yugoslavia in three years. There is still bloodshed there, hundreds of thousands of people have ended up homeless, there is no sign of peace, and the money allocated for peacekeeping has been spent, moreover the UN Security Council mandate for the "blue helmets" runs out 30 November. There you have the picture.

The NATO Council has now been entrusted with the peacekeeping operation. But peace cannot be achieved there without Russia. NATO troops can go in for a year and pressure everyone, but they will have to leave in a year. If they stay, that will be called occupation. Russia will take part in a peacekeeping operation if the appropriate UN Security Council decision is adopted; we will not be guided by NATO Council instructions. Meanwhile unified, common tasks have to be performed. Thus, it is a question of organizing good working cooperation. That is the main task facing our military mission in NATO.

What questions lie ahead here? How are the principles of unity of leadership (to use NATO terminology) or one-man command to be preserved? How are the peacekeepers to remain impartial, and how can we preclude the possibility of their acting in the interests of one of the conflicting sides...?

[Pogorelyy] As in fact happened with the "blue helmets" — the UN forces?

[Shevtsov] Certainly, when the air forces knocked out some of the Serbs' military potential. Other parties to the conflict took advantage of this to switch to the offensive and start seizing territory.

Today I think that we have coped as best we can with the tasks that our delegation and I have been set by the defense minister; we have worked out the optimum scenario for Russian troop involvement in the coming operation.

First, we have ensured that Russia is represented by a separate, autonomous troop contingent. Second, their missions will be assigned by the supreme commander of the multinational forces via his deputy in charge of the Russian troops. In order to cooperate we have agreed to exchange small operational groups of two or three men (the Americans call them liaison officers), attached to the NATO corps of the Rapid Reaction Force and the U.S. division as well as our brigade.

We also agreed to assign the national peacekeeping contingents their missions so that their zones of responsibility embrace the territory of not one but two conflicting sides.

[Pogorelyy] And the Russian brigade has even gotten an area where three sides meet?

[Shevtsov] Yes, the Posava corridor is a very important sector. The borders of the Serb, Croat, and Bosnian territory are located here. There is a highway which it is planned to use to organize rear support for the peacekeeping forces. Both Serb groupings link up here. At the same time the choice of our troops' basing area takes into consideration the wishes of all parties to the conflict.

[Pogorelyy] Leontiy Pavlovich, you mentioned the "U.S. division" with which our brigade primarily has to cooperate. Pentagon spokesmen have said that it may be a question of both the Third Mechanized and the First Armored Tank Brigade (both are deployed in Germany). Or is it not yet known?

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[Shevtsov] Right now the specific tasks facing the national contingents have not been determined, nor has either the specific numerical strength of the grouping or its composition been clarified. This is precisely what we will have to do over the next four to six weeks when planning the operation in detail under the leadership of General Joulwan.

One of the main issues that we will be studying is the organization of rear services support. Incidentally, I like the fact that for the Americans the second document to be published after the concept for the operation, the directive, and the order is the plan for rear services support. Regrettably, in our country this document is often considered of secondary importance.

[Pogorelyy] Soldiers must after all be fed, watered, clothed, and, ultimately, paid their money and supplied with ammunition and fuel and lubricants — that is, there must be material support for a serviceman's life and work....

[Shevtsov] I absolutely agree with you. We have had enough of soldiers being treated as if they were "disposable"! If we want men to be constantly ready to perform their assigned tasks, they must be treated humanely and the conditions created for them to lead a normal everyday life and perform combat work. There is no point in our taking pride in the fact that the Americans have two or three service personnel for every soldier in combat, while in our country the ratio is reversed at 1:3. The result is that sometimes we provide the troops with less than the prescribed amount of food, water, and provisions.

This is especially important in the upcoming peacekeeping operation. These are not straightforward combat operations; there is no need to rebuff attacks five or six times a day or launch an attack ourselves. It will be necessary to stand at posts in harsh winter conditions and, if necessary, use force to separate the conflicting parties. We will have to escort humanitarian aid and freight and protect crowds of refugees.... When an all-out war is under way, you can keep warm by cutting down trees in a neighboring fruit orchard or using furniture from nearby homes. But we are not going to fight! We are bringing peace and trying to help people make peace. Wrongful actions by soldiers will only provoke the population's hatred. And unless we think through comprehensively matters pertaining to soldiers' supplies, we will drive them to loot just to survive...!

[Pogorelyy] How far are the Foreign Ministry and the diplomats helping you?

[Shevtsov] We have complete mutual understanding with the people that I am currently encountering — Vitaliy Churkin, Russian ambassador to Belgium, and Nikolay Afanasyevskiy. Many matters pertaining to the Yugoslav settlement are purely political, while in others the military and diplomatic aspects are closely interwoven. The question of political control of the operation has not yet been resolved. Russia has proposed several options, but so far there is no unity of views.... Sometimes we start arguing with Gen. Joulwan and we get upset, then we laugh and say that "we are not paid to do this" and leave it to the politicians.

[Pogorelyy] A great deal has been said about political control. What is the crux of the matter here?

[Shevtsov] Monitoring whether the peacekeepers' actions accord with or go beyond their mandate. In the event of a violation, finding out who is responsible and what steps to take. It would be good to agree straight off which means of persuasion should be considered adequate and whether it is sensible, crudely speaking, to scramble an aircraft carrier squadron in response to a rifle shot after fully rehearsing....

[Pogorelyy] And not changing the rules in the course of play?

[Shevtsov] These rules and instructions should be prepared on the basis of experience before the operation begins. Jumping in later and trying to direct and control things only hampers action.

There are NATO principles, Russian principles, UN principles, and, last, the Geneva conventions and agreements. If the politicians on high cannot reach a common opinion, what are soldiers or platoon or company commanders to do? They must have no doubt what principles to rely on and which rules to give precedence. They need well-defined, clear instructions on what to do in which situation, whom to report to, and when to open fire. If they do not have this, we either condemn people to a tribunal or, on the contrary, they will be afraid to take action and people will take brazen action when they see our inactivity. But, I repeat, political control is not my province; that is something for the diplomats to worry about.

Particularly since there are plenty of purely military problems. NATO members have 46 years' experience of cooperation. Even our conceptual apparatus is different. Plenty of work needs to be done. This is the first peacekeeping operation in the new era, and it is setting a precedent. Any potential aggressor must see that his actions, including those designed to unleash regional wars, will be rebuffed not just in the form of sanctions, resolutions, and other means of persuasion but also by organized military force.

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[Pogorelyy] Leontiy Pavlovich, the NATO high command and combined staff will be behind Gen. Joulwan in the upcoming planning work. Will your small group have help from the General Staff and Russian Defense Ministry specialists?

[Shevtsov] Needless to say, five to six men cannot cope with such a colossal task. We will provide General Staff and Defense Ministry directorates with the initial data. Should we need any specialists for a day or two or even a week they can be detailed to Brussels; it is not very advisable and not that cheap to inflate the staff of the mission.

Especially since the operation commander has decided to enlist commanders — from battalion level and above — from among the participants in the practical work. I know that Aleksandr Lentsov, who is now deputy commander of the Ulyanovsk Airborne Division, has already been appointed a brigade commander from Russia. We also need to carry out reconnaissance work on the spot and determine the basing locations of staffs, posts, etc.

[Pogorelyy] How do you feel as the Russian Armed Forces' NATO representative, and how are you treated there?

[Shevtsov] Needless to say I never thought that I would work at NATO headquarters. It was interesting to compare how the information about the bloc provided by schools and academies accords with reality. I must say that in the military-technical context our information was very reliable and good, and very close to reality. In purely human terms the situation in NATO is amicable and I would say that there is increased attention paid to and interest in Russians....

[Pogorelyy] By the special services too?

[Shevtsov] They exist in every state; it is their official duty. They are probably studying us too. But they are not irritating. NATO is not a country but 16 states. And over many years people there have worked out a good structure and format for cooperation. You see all manner of people there — all manner of uniforms, various skin colors, various languages. But there is a mechanism that enables the interests of both small countries and great powers to be taken into account. I think that we are attracting interest not because we have come from Russia but as new people — which is understandable in human terms. We ourselves feel that we are representatives of a great country and we are behaving with confidence.

[Pogorelyy] Why were you chosen for the post of the Russian Armed Forces' first representative to NATO?

[Shevtsov] I do not know. It was the president's decision at the defense minister's suggestion.... [Shevtsov ends]

Col. Gen. Shevtsov did not enlarge here, out of personal modesty as I understood it. In actual fact even a fleeting acquaintance with the general's service record is sufficient to see that it was no accident that he was chosen, since he is one of the most experienced officers on the General Staff. After graduating from Tashkent Higher Combined-Arms Command School with merit and the Frunze Academy and later the Academy of the General Staff he held all command posts from platoon to army level. He did not just command the First Guards Tank [Division] but withdrew it from Germany to Smolensk. He was deputy chief of the Main Directorate for Operations of the General Staff and from late December 1994 through April 1995 he was chief of staff of the combined group of federal forces in Chechnya. He returned to Moscow as first deputy chief of the Main Directorate for Operations of the General Staff. And since October Gen. Shevtsov has been simultaneously deputy supreme commander of the multinational forces in charge of the Russian troops and one of the senior leaders of the upcoming NATO-Russian peacekeeping operation in the former Yugoslavia.

Moscow Urges UN Council To Let FRY Export Grain

LD1411192895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1803 GMT 14 Nov 95

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov. 14 (Interfax) — Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin today urged the U.N. Security Council "to give a positive response" to Belgrade's request that it be allowed to export grain in order to finance import of energy supplies for humanitarian purposes.

Karasin repeated that on November 10 the U.N. Security Council's committee on sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [FRY] had approved Russia's request for the monthly export to Yugoslavia of 186 million cubic meters of natural gas for humanitarian purposes.

Karasin said this decision "proves the international community's readiness to meet the needs of civilians in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia suffering from the economic sanctions."

Karasin said international organizations had highlighted the difficult humanitarian situation in Yugoslavia, where hundreds of thousands of refugees rushed from the Serb-populated areas of Croatia and Bosnia.

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Karasin said he believed that the decision of the committee on sanctions would produce a positive influence on the talks on peace settlement of the Yugoslav conflict which are currently being held in the United States.

Russian-Chinese Military Cooperation Viewed

OW1511115195 Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Mandarin 1300 GMT 12 Nov 95

[From the "Weekly Review" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, our correspondent Kriechevskiy station will discuss the development of Russian-Chinese military cooperation.

What we want to say first is that this issue also falls within the scope of the development of overall Russian-Chinese relations in recent years. It conforms with the interest of the two countries [words indistinct] particularly, the continual mutual visits of military leaders and the signing of various agreements on military cooperation. This also includes the settlement of disputes over the longest state boundary in the world. Military ties also include the sale of Russian weapons to China and the training of Chinese troops. There is no attempt by either side to cover up their military cooperation; however, they have each stressed that they are not ready to form a military alliance. Russian Defense Minister Graschev also mentioned this during his visit to China. What the two countries are concerned about at present is the development of mutual, beneficial, steady cooperation.

[Tieyiniejin] Russian Air Force Commander-in-Chief, who visited China not long ago, pointed out: Conversations and talks with leaders of the Chinese People's Liberation Army once more show that they are willing to strengthen military ties with Russian. General Tieyiniejin also said that China had bought modern Russian Su-40 jet planes. Chinese pilots are also studying the technics of flying and operating these planes in a Russian military academy.

Russia's supply of weapons to China has not exceeded the scope of international stipulations. As we all know, the arms business is something very common in the contemporary world. The spokesman of a Russian weapons firm recently told ITAR-TASS that there are good prospects for further Russian-Chinese military technology cooperation. Besides, this is not just commercial exchanges, but it also shows mutual trust.

Finally, the development of Russian-Chinese military ties has another characteristic. Such ties will not in the least constitute a threat to a third country. Moreover, this is also a kind of guarantee to stabilizing the balance of strength between a region and the whole world. We should know that changes in the world's geostrategy are not yet complete; the expansion of NATO to the east is a good example. At present, both Moscow and Beijing have held that these plans are harmful. This is another view in the assessment of international affairs shared by the two countries. Russia and China can further consolidate such shared views after their discussion on cooperation between them in the upcoming Russia-China summit.

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Political Issues

'Information Security' Regime Surrounds Yeltsin

MM1511101695 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 95 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Is Boris Yeltsin Running the Country?": "The Atmosphere in the Central Clinical Hospital Is Bleaker Than in the Central Committee"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian President's Medical Center leads a special kind of life. A special visiting regime has been introduced at the former Central Clinical Hospital in connection with Boris Yeltsin's course of treatment there. One-off passes for visitors of patients undergoing treatment at the Medical Center have been canceled, at least until the end of November. Only permanent passes for two relatives per patient remain in force, and the patient himself nominates them on admission to the Medical Center. There has also been a sharp reduction in the number of purely "commercial" patients not employed by government or state structures who are undergoing paid treatment (one day in the Medical Center costs more than $100). While the "special regime" is in force "commercial" patients can only be hospitalized there if they are suffering from a very serious illness noted in a medical report compiled by Medical Center physicians.

As we learned from reliable sources, unprecedented measures to enforce the "information security" regime have been adopted at the Central Clinical Hospital on [Presidential Security Service head] Aleksandr Korzhakov's orders. Essentially they are designed to prevent a leak of any information relating to the president's health. Medical staff who have access to the patient have had to sign a statement that they will not divulge information relating to the progress of the illness, the patient's state of health, the medicines and apparatus used, and so forth.

The same sources report that the physicians who are treating the president are under constant observation by Korzhakov's agency and, furthermore, not only during his stay at the Central Clinical Hospital. The work of the doctors indirectly occupied with Yeltsin is organized in such a way that their contacts with colleagues are restricted to the minimum. For this purpose the "presidential ward" at the Central Clinical Hospital has been extended and premises have been set aside for additional medical equipment. Essentially the president has his own clinic today, where the best physicians are at work and the most modern Russian and foreign equipment has been installed.

Of course the doctors themselves avoid all telephone discussions on the subject of the president's state of health or else claim that they know nothing. Many hospital staffers are of the opinion that their work and home telephones are being tapped by the special services and that this will continue throughout Boris Yeltsin's stay in the Medical Center.

Premier Speaks on Defense, NATO, Land Reform

LD1411205095 Moscow NTV in Russian 1600 GMT 14 Nov 95

[From the "Segodnya" program — passages in quotation marks recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In Tula, Chernomyrdin prefaced his address to an important meeting with the words that this was the first time that he was speaking not only as prime minister, but also as the leader of a preelection bloc. All of that was late yesterday evening and as it happens, ours was the only crew to film that event:

[Unidentified correspondent] Beginning his speech at the meeting with the leadership of Tula region, Viktor Chernomyrdin drew the audience's attention to the capacity in which he was appearing before it.

[Chernomyrdin] "This is the first time that I have been in such an audience and today is perhaps also the first time that I am speaking as a representative of, and as the leader of the Our Home is Russia movement, as well as prime minister."

[Correspondent] Viktor Chernomyrdin said that it was easy to criticize the government since it is the only one now to deal with real matters. Incidentally, the prime minister agreed with those who are not happy with how the reforms are proceeding.

[Chernomyrdin] "It's not right. We have begun many matters. Maybe we shouldn't have been so severe. Maybe we shouldn't have thrown ourselves into things in such a way."

[Correspondent] However, the prime minister insists upon the continuation of reforms, especially land reforms. Incidentally, Viktor Chernomyrdin also favors all forms of ownership but thinks that equal conditions must be created for them. However, the prime minister said that the defense industry must remain under the state's control.

[Chernomyrdin] "The state order is the holiest of holies for the Russian state. We will maintain it. The whole problem lies in the proportions in which we need to do that today."

[Correspondent] Being in the center of Russia's defense industry, Chernomyrdin said that he could not help but

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touch upon the military sphere of international relations. The prime minister came out against the expansion of NATO toward the East.

[Chernomyrdin] "NATO remains a military union and not just an international organization. It is clear to all today that there are no military unions which are 'for something'. There are military unions which are 'against someone'."

[Correspondent] The chairman of the Our Home is Russia movement spoke with irritation of those who argue for the postponement of the parliamentary elections. Chernomyrdin thinks that this would be a shock for the country from which it would be difficult to recover. The audience received the speaker warmly and reacted in a lively way to his calls and jokes. At the end of the meeting the people of Tula presented to the prime minister a photographic album of his stay in the town and invited him to come back. Chernomyrdin promised to return.

Kulikov Discusses Fighting Crime, Police Corruption

MM1311162595 Moscow TRUD-7 in Russian 10-16 Nov 95 pp 4-5

[Olga Parfenova report of phone-in with Internal Affairs Minister Anatoliy Kulikov; place and date not given: "'Hello, Kulikov Here'" — first paragraph is TRUD-7 introduction]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Readers were looking forward to the "Phone-In" with Internal Affairs Minister Anatoliy Sergeyevich Kulikov that was announced the day before. The telephone did not stop ringing from 1000 hours: Someone's son had been killed, their grandson had disappeared, people had been robbed, duped.... What mayhem there is in the country! What tragedy people are suffering and how they need the support of the police. The minister promised to investigate. Every specific case. But there were also far from personal calls — about general problems. The responses to those questions can be considered, as it were, the minister's report on the first 100 days of his leadership of the country's internal affairs organs. [passage omitted]

Vladimir Shapovalov (Stavropol):

The newspapers have reported that after the tragedy in Budennovsk an MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] brigade carried out a secret inspection of State Motor Vehicle Inspection Administration [GAI] personnel on the "Caucasus" Highway. Why was this? And what were the results?

[Kulikov] When I was in Chechnya, the following question cropped up on several occasions: Can weapons be transported down this highway unimpeded? Many people denied this was possible. Basayev regrettably proved the opposite, which caused a terrible calamity.

The purpose of the inspection was not to catch someone out, it was important to see whether our personnel are reliable. We bought some vodka, loaded up a refrigerated truck, and videoed the route from North Ossetia — via the Kabardino-Balkar Republic, Stavropol and Krasnodar Krays — to Rostov Oblast. Only two out of 24 GAI posts did not take a bribe from the driver. The rate varied between 30,000 and 300,000 rubles.... Admittedly, half the "guards" had nothing to do with the GAI.

The result was that 30 policemen were discharged from internal affairs organs for breaking the law and professional misconduct and disciplinary proceedings were instituted against 36 structural subunit leaders.

Oleg Vasilyevich Natykin (Novgorod):

Comrade General, I personally have gained the impression that after the tragic events in Budennovsk the local police were made a kind of "scapegoat." After all, they were the only people from all the subunits through whose territory Basayev's men passed who joined battle with the bandits and they may have saved Russia from a more dreadful calamity. Therefore the removal of Nikolay Lyashenko as chief of the Budennovsk police department is puzzling, to put it mildly.... Has another "fall guy" not been found?

[Kulikov] Lyashenko's culpability is in no doubt. He received information from the Russian MVD — including from me as commander of the internal troops — that Dudayevite sabotage-terrorist squads might infiltrate this area. But he took no action and did not even hold a briefing or warn personnel. And he scribbled some meaningless phrase on the cable from the MVD like "pending" or "to be filed".... When we investigated the circumstances behind the tragedy it became clear that 107 of the department's 112 assault rifles were stacked in the armory . The result was that there was actually only one armed policeman at his post. Why did Lyashenko not issue personnel with weapons but let things slide?

As for punishing a "fall guy" or a "scapegoat," that is utterly wrong. In all over 30 leaders of internal affairs organs at various levels have been punished. As you probably know, a minister, two of his first deputies, the head of the kray internal affairs administration, and his deputy have been sacked.... They were more than guilty enough. I said then that it would probably be right for me too to be sacked.

Valentina Andreyevna Mishina:

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Hello, this is Valentina Andreyevna Mishina speaking. I am the mother of a serviceman (from Moscow). Could you tell me, are the internal troops under your jurisdiction?

[Kulikov] Yes.

[Mishina] Lord, where are we to get the strength to bear all this? My boy was in Chechnya until May, then they were withdrawn from there. They sat idle for six months and were then sent back. It would be better had I not sent him into the Army.

[Kulikov] Valentina Andreyevna, the thing is that the forces are rotated every six months. There are regrettably no other forces.

[Mishina] But it was said that anyone who had already been to Chechnya would not be sent back.

[Kulikov] There is no legislation to that effect. But we are trying to adhere to that idea although it does not always work. We are doing what we can.

[Mishina] I have another question. My son was due to be discharged in December. Will he really have to serve another six months? And are you going to dare to have this sin on your conscience?

[Kulikov] The point is that the president took this decision and the Duma amended legislation in the past. This is due, as you yourself will understand, to the shortage of draftees. In which unit does he serve?

[Mishina] In Krasnodar Kray, in Labinsk.

[Kulikov] Valentina Andreyevna, I hope that everything will be OK. And that your son writes to you shortly.

Vyacheslav Vasilyevich Korovin (Rostov-na-Donu):

It has long been said that Dudayev is a criminal. If that is true, the police should be hunting him down. Or is it unable to do so?

[Kulikov] I know that Dudayev and Basayev are now hiding out in the mountains — with local residents. An operation could of course be mounted to capture them but hundreds of people would die in the process, which is what is stopping us. But they will be held accountable in law without fail.

Mariya Stepanovna Yefremova (Tambov):

Why have peaceful Chechen villages been bombed?

[Kulikov] No one has bombed peaceful villages. But if we receive intelligence data that guerrillas are gathered in such-and-such a house, as happened for instance when they were celebrating their successful attack on General Romanov, then a decision is made to destroy that target.

Anatoliy Mikhaylovich Nesterov (Yelets, Lipetsk Oblast):

Why are the talks in Chechnya constantly being frustrated?

[Kulikov] The illegal armed formations are replenishing their potential. They are employing terrorist methods and civil war in order to thwart the peaceful settlement of the crisis. The series of terrorist acts against Presidential Representative Lobov, Gen. Romanov, and the group of Russian construction workers rebuilding Chechnya; the incessant shelling of commandants' offices and checkpoints; and other provocative acts are confirmation of that. Incidentally, there is a radio intercept threatening me: So-called military prosecutors from Dudayev's entourage passed the death sentence on me. But come what may we will continue the talks.

The republic's Supreme Soviet, illegally dissolved by Dudayev, has already been restored to all intents and purposes. The government is led by Doku Zavgayev. We cannot help but recognize the new political situation or the fact that the talks have switched to a new footing. We are prepared for real dialogue with the legitimate Chechen Government. [passage omitted]

Leonid Grigoryevich Gordiyenko (Lyubertsy):

I would like to ask you this: Are you opposed to the criminal individuals who are now getting into the Duma? Why are people like Mavrodi and Solovyeva running?

[Kulikov] Legally only a person who has been imprisoned by a court cannot be elected to parliament. Someone who is under investigation is entitled to be nominated.

[Gordiyenko] If a person is in jail, does he have the right to vote?

[Kulikov] No, only people in a remand center.

Mikhail Ivanovich Maltsev (Voronezh):

There is currently a great deal of hullabaloo over the list of deputies with a criminal past that you have drawn up. Should these names have been made public?

[Kulikov] In this case there was an official request from the Central Electoral Commission and we responded to that request That is, we did our job. This is done by all law-enforcement bodies in countries that have democratic elections. Incidentally, the candidate selection process in the United States is far tougher and more detailed information is required. Regrettably, technical mistakes were made because of identical surnames, first names, and patronymics, for which we apologize.

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It is up to the Central Electoral Commission whether or not to publish this list.

[Maltsev] What do you think?

[Kulikov] It is of course one thing if someone has served time in jail for their political convictions and been rehabilitated. And quite another if they have served five jail sentences for criminal offenses, including, robbery, vandalism.... There is also the point that, like it or not, you wonder what kind of laws that person would draw up for us when it comes to crime-fighting? [passage omitted]

Sergey Nikolayevich Ovsyankin (Murom):

What are you and your ministry doing to ensure law and order on the street?

[Kulikov] Whereas until recently the police mainly patrolled cities and other population centers in vehicles, for instance, now we are obliging patrolmen to assign more foot patrols. Precinct police inspectors must be accountable for security in their area. They will get help from patrol details and take charge of this service. What is more, we are insistently advising and asking public security police leaders to set up more fixed police posts so that residents know that there is a policeman constantly on duty in a certain precinct. And if there is any trouble, there is no need to run to him, you can approach the nearest policeman. Even if people are unable to call an ambulance because they do not have a telephone for instance.

We assembled in Nizhniy Novgorod all the leaders responsible for organizing patrol service and held a seminar and classes with them in order to introduce this idea everywhere.

[Ovsyankin] You seem to be engaged in crime-fighting, but judging by the figures crime is still on the increase.

[Kulikov] These figures are relative. Crime can be said to have risen by 30 percent for instance. But the police can also be said to have detected 30 percent more crimes. Our work cannot be judged on the basis of this indicator alone. Assessment by the population constitutes the only correct criteria. We have just received a call on the hot-line from a woman: Her car, for which she and her husband had saved all their lives, was stolen. A policeman drove up in response to her call (we will deal with him later) and said rudely: Never mind, save up again, and kiss this one good-bye. But if he had had some sympathy (even had the vehicle not been found) and tried to help, people would trust the police. Our task is to make law-enforcement bodies work with feeling. I am an optimist here, I am sure that there will be a turn for the better.

Petr Romanovich Kermanskiy (Moscow):

I am an elderly man, I am 83 years old. I have a suggestion for you when it comes to combating gangsterism. Perhaps we should declare something like the "Red Terror" we had in 1919-1920, needless to say, with the population's consent. You won't remember that....

[Kulikov] No, but I am familiar with history. I think, Petr Romanovich, that the idea of a "Red Terror" today would meet with little support in the country. Although gangsters do of course deserve the toughest of treatment.

[Kermanskiy] I would advise setting up something like a "triumvirate" in every rayon — do you remember what they were like?.... They had ministerial powers.

[Kulikov] That is probably also fairly dangerous. But we have asked the president (and the president has submitted a legislative initiative to the State Duma) to simplify investigations in certain respects. Because policemen are over-burdened with formalities, which are quite unnecessary when the crime is obvious. We hope that the idea will win support.

[Kermanskiy] And, finally, migration should be cut back. No one can supervise all these movements....

[Kulikov] I do not think that the population is moving around that much today. People simply do not have enough money to do so. I am not referring to criminals — they do not recognize any borders. During the last conference of the CIS internal ministers in Yerevan we seriously discussed this problem and decided to pool our efforts in fighting criminals in order to ensure that they do not find asylum in neighboring countries.

Olga Ilinichna Karpova (Lipetsk):

How do you view the death penalty?

[Kulikov] As long as such monstrous crimes as "contract" killing exist it is too soon for us to renounce the death penalty. What penalties — apart from executions — can you apply to "man-eating" gangsters?

Aleksey Kolosov (Vologda):

Why are "contract" killings not cleared up?

[Kulikov] We do clear up a lot of killings — 75 percent. No other country achieves those kind of figures. As for "contract" killings, this very concept is arbitrary. There are of course show killings — involving explosives and shooting — but often they are presented as street brawls, accidents, suicides.... No one can tell you the real number of "contract" killings. But we are also clearing them up.

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In Moscow and Moscow Oblast, for instance, seven members of the Novokuznetsk criminal fraternity have been arrested. They have over 50 "contract" killings in Moscow and Moscow and Kemerovo Oblasts on their conscience. Another gang that was wiped out a few days ago in Tomsk had committed roughly the same number. Five hired killers from Saransk were caught in Kaliningrad Oblast and convicted of committing seven murders. In Sverdlovsk Oblast, apart from those directly involved in a murder, we have also arrested the brains behind it. We call these groups of killers "man-eaters."

[Kolosov] Why have the killers of Kholodov, Listyev, and Men [murdered priest] not been found yet?

[Kulikov] As far as Men is concerned I can say that the crime has been cleared up. We have a confession from the man who committed the crime. The material has been filed with the court.

It is hoped that the murder of the journalist Kholodov will be cleared up.

The investigation of the Listyev case is somewhat worse, but there have been hitches.

I cannot be more definite. These cases are mainly being handled by the General Prosecutor's Office, but our representatives and FSB [Federal Security Service] personnel are working on the investigation team. [passage omitted]

Irina Andreyevna Fedorova (Tula):

I heard a report on television that the Russian MVD — like in Italy — would conduct a "Clean Hands" operation. Will we not end up without a police force since I think that the whole system is tainted by corruption?

[Kulikov] Three months ago when I was appointed minister of internal affairs I could not even imagine the degree of corruption in internal affairs organs that I have encountered. I have come to realize one thing: If we do not start purging our own ranks, the whole fight against organized crime and corruption will merely be reduced to eliminating their superficial manifestations.

Therefore I have had to adopt a number of important organizational and cadre decisions. The MVD Main Administration for Organized Crime has been transferred to my direct jurisdiction. Police Major General Valeriy Nikolayevich Petrov has been appointed to head it. He is an experienced specialist and back in the days of the Union MVD was head of the operational-investigation section of the Main Administration for the Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation, but then minister Shchelokov transferred him to the MVD All-Union Scientific Research Institute for his excessive "sedulity."

All operational-intelligence subunits are also now under my direct jurisdiction. A personal security administration has been set up within the ministry.

In effect, we have already begun a "Clean Hands" Operation, the purpose of which, I want to stress, is not a "witch-hunt" but to purge the MVD system of outright traitors and corrupt officials and their patrons.

[Fedorova] Have they been detected?

[Kulikov] Regrettably, we have. A few days ago we completed an official inspection into serious official misdemeanors committed by leadership personnel in the Russian MVD and the Moscow and Moscow Oblast Main Internal Affairs Administration. There has been treachery, inactivity, and collusion with criminal elements. I will not anticipate events by amplifying things (the order has been signed, but I have not yet told personnel about it), I will just say that the measures taken have elicited strong opposition — including threats of physical violence against the inspectors. We were forced to provide them with an armed guard. [Kulikov ends]

From the Editorial Office: We learned that the day after the "phone-in" with our readers Minister A. Kulikov informed MVD leadership personnel of the order. It mentions in particular illegal machinations discovered during the inspection involving weapons confiscated from criminals. Some of these weapons, which were thought to have been destroyed, once again ended up in the hands of gangsters. Cases have been discovered of unregistered motor vehicles at GAI subunits, which had been illegally imported to Russia. Failure to take action against dangerous criminals and even direct complicity have been established. General V. Aksakov, deputy chief of the Moscow Oblast Internal Affairs Main Administration, has been discharged from internal affairs organs for betraying the interests of the service. In all over 10 leaders have bee punished for lack of supervision and professional misconduct.

Lyudmila Ivanovna Barsukova (Kursk) What is your prediction regarding the criminal situation in the country? What should we expect?

[Kulikov] The short-term scientific forecast is unfavorable. By all accounts the consolidation of criminal groups and the formation of transnational and interregional criminal structures will continue.

Criminals' increasing rivalry will result in their toughening their methods of fighting for spheres of influence. When it comes to settling their economic disagreements

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commercial structures will still enlist criminal groupings, which use mainly one method: physical removal of competitors, creditors, and debtors. It is forecast that there will be more encroachments on installations that have not yet been privatized: namely plots of land, military-industrial complex enterprises, budget-funded establishments, etc.

I do not engage in pipe dreams, I am perfectly well aware that eradicating crime is impossible — it is a social phenomenon inherent in every society. But we can undoubtedly help to improve the situation in the country. We sincerely want to take every measure to ensure the population's security.

Lawsuit Against Grachev Rejected Due to Amnesty

LD1511115895 Moscow INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY in Russian 1000 GMT 15 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] General Nikolay Petukhov, chairman of the military collegium of the Russian Supreme Court, has refused to bring a criminal case against Defense Minister Grachev which Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the State Duma Committee for Defense, has been insisting on because of the amnesty in connection with the 50th anniversary of victory, the Ekho Moskvy radio station has learned.

The chairman of the collegium thinks that the amnesty approved by the State Duma on 19 April applies to the defense minister "as a hero of the Soviet Union who took part in military actions to defend the interests of the USSR in Afghanistan."

Sergey Yushenkov said in his statement of claim that Grachev publicly slandered him in the mass media. The chairman of the military collegium said that the defense minister does not object to work being stopped on Yushenkov's statement because of the amnesty, that is, he agrees to it being applied.

Gang of Contract Assassins Arrested in Moscow

LD1411162795 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1427 GMT 14 Nov 95

[By Larisa Kislinskaya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 14 (Itar-Tass) — A gang of criminals, which specialised in contract assassinations, has been arrested by agents of the Moscow Criminal Investigations Department, their colleagues from the Russian Interior Ministry, and the Moscow regional police, the Moscow Interior Department told Itar-Tass on Tuesday.

Five men have so far been arrested. They include some young Muscovites and also residents of the Odintsovo district, located near Moscow.

The gang specialised in killing witnesses of criminal doings and debtors, as well as in murders linked with the sharing of spheres of influence. Their victims include Leonid Zavadskiy, eminent criminal authority nicknamed Batya, whose body was found almost a year ago on one of the Moscow cemeteries, his 24-year-old girl friend, and member of a Moscow suburban gang Salyakhetdinov, whom the bandits killed and threw into the Moskva river. The arrested men are also charged of killing a certain Galanin, whose burned body was found on a vacant site near Leninsky prospekt.

The Moscow Prosecutor's Office has brought charges against the arrested members of the gang in accordance with Article 77 of the Russian Criminal Code (Banditism). The investigation is being continued.

Federal Assembly

Federation Council Submits New Membership Plan

MM1511113595 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 1

["Commentary of the Day" by Nikolay Kishkin: "What Is Russia To Do — and Without Senators, To Boot?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A paradoxical situation has developed in Russia: It is less than a month until the parliament's term of office expires, and the future of both its chambers when reconstituted is being called into question. The possibility of the Duma's election and subsequent legitimacy have already been placed in doubt. Even though the election day has been named and, what is more, some kind of law does exist. As for the formation of the Federation Council, there is not even a law yet. The one that the Duma adopted contrary to the upper chamber's position has not yet been signed by the president, presumably in view of the document's obvious harmful nature. We have already said that the norms contained in it will leave the parliament without an upper chamber for many months, since they require preliminary elections of top officials in the Federation components. It is them alone that the Duma wants to see in parliament.

Yesterday Vladimir Shumeyko carried out his chamber's instructions and submitted a new draft law for its consideration. It differs considerably from the Duma version. The Federation Council is proposing equal representation from each Federation component and the presidency — two members each. The components are represented by the heads of their legislature and executive or their deputies. And the components themselves

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decide the procedure for sending their representatives. The idea is that the chamber will start to be formed after 12 December. However, an important norm is being proposed which rules out the possibility of the Federation Council's work being paralyzed: Its current members will continue to exercise their authority after 12 December until new members of the chamber are appointed. At the same time it is being suggested that Federation components be given the right to grant a second term to the deputy whom they previously elected to the chamber's first convocation.

Even a fleeting analysis shows that Shumeyko's plan removes many acute problems that have given rise to disputes. But the chamber has no right to adopt a law — that is the Duma's remit. And the Federation Council has to submit a legislative initiative to the Duma.

Duma Rejects Law on Forming Federation Council

MM1411150295 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4

[Unattributed report: "In the State Duma" — from the "Documents" section]

[FBIS Translated Text] At its session [date not given] the State Duma disagreed with the Federation Council resolution rejecting the Federal Law "On the Procedure for Forming the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council" and sent it to the Russian Federation president for signature and publication.

The question was examined of progress in implementing the Federal Law "On the Federal Budget for 1995" in the sphere of funding the construction of health care projects in accordance with Appendix 5 and resolving urgent problems in the sphere of health care in accordance with Appendix 6 to the said law. The State Duma drew the Russian Federation Government's attention to a violation of this law and recommended that the Russian Federation Ministry of Finance be entrusted with increasing the funding of projects and programs to the level of at least 50 percent by 15 November 1995 and to 100 percent by 15 December 1995.

The appeal "To the Chairman of the Russian Federation Government on the Transformation of the Ostankino Russian State Television and Radio Company [ORSTRC] Music Center" was adopted at the same session. It states, in particular, that a danger arises of the ORSTRC Music Center's activity being termined in accordance with the Russian Federation presidential edict "On Improving Television and Radio Broadcasting in the Russian Federation" and in connection with the upcoming liquidation of the ORSTRC. Over 400 highly professional musicians could end up on the street or trying to find employment with Western orchestras. The State Duma raised the question of accelerating the adoption of the Russian Federation Government decree transforming the music center into the Russian State Music Center as a state organization, providing it with the necessary property, and making provision for its funding out of the federal budget.

In addition, in connection with the Federation Council's rejection of the law "On Agreements on the Division of Output" the State Duma set up a conciliation commission on this question.

The State Duma examined for a second time and adopted the Water Code with due regard for the Russian Federation president's proposals. The Federal Law "On Making an Addition to the Russian Federation Law 'On the Customs Tariff'" was also approved.

The State Duma adopted a decree on the development of integration between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus. The adopted document points out that further rapprochement between the states accords with the fundamental interests and aspirations of the peoples of Russia and Belarus, contributes to their well-being, and helps to overcome the crisis phenomena in social development which both countries have encountered, to develop Slavic culture, and to strengthen international prestige. The Russian Federation president is recommended to submit a draft program for integration between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus to the Federation Council for examination. At the same time it is proposed to form a state delegation at the talks with the Republic of Belarus with the participation of representatives of the Federation Council, the State Duma, and the Russian Federation Government to prepare legal backup for the process of integration and to define specific forms of rapprochement between the two states. A proposal was made relating to the need to hold a referendum in the Russian Federation on relations with the Republic of Belarus.

Legislative, Regulatory Documents 5-11 Nov

96P50016

[FBIS Media Note] The following is a listing of Russian legislation recently published in the press of the Russian Federation compiled by FBIS. Numbers within parentheses indicate approximate wordage. Entries followed by the notation "Text" have been translated into English and are available in FBIS publications. (Note: Most newspapers did not publish this week until 9 November)

SECTION I: ECONOMIC LEGISLATION (EXPORT-IMPORT, BANKING,

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PRIVATIZATION, AUCTIONS, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT)

Government 18 September Decree No. 949 Approving Appended (But Not Published) Lists Of Joint-Stock Companies Created Through Privatization, Producing Strategically Important Output, Whose Federally-Owned Shares Cannot Be Sold Ahead Of Schedule. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (400)

Government 13 October Directive No. 1425 On Granting Investment Loan of R5O Billion To Sheremetyevo International Airport In Order To Complete Modernization Of No. 1 Runway, With Commentary By A. Sharov On Plans For General Modernization Of Airport By Year 2001. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 1, 6 (100/800)

Chernomyrdin 14 October Decree No. 1018 On State's Representatives In Aeroflot During Privatization. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (800)

Presidential 17 October Directive No. 464 Approving Composition Of Supervisory Council Set Up Under Decree No. 1046 Of 17 October On Supply Of Grain And Feed Harvesting Equipment To Russia's Agro-Industrial Complex. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (300)

Government 23 October Decree No. 1028 Amending And 'Augmenting List Of Enterprises Permitted To Effect Cash Transactions Without Using Cash Registers. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 95 p 5) (700)

Government 23 October Decree No. 1029 On Questions Of The Russian Federation Ministry Of Foreign Affairs Financial And Material Situation. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (1200) (Text)

Chernomyrdin 24 October Decree No. 1035 On Russian Financial-Banking Union. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (900) (Text)

Government 26 October Directive No. 1484 Instructing Finance Ministry To Allocate R79.7 Million To Cover Costs Of All-Russia Conference With Leaders Of Local Self-Government Organs. (Moscow ROSSIYSIYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 5) (SO)

Chernomyrdin 27 October Directive No. 1492 Submitting Draft Federal Law On Amendments And Additions To 1995 Federal Budget To State Duma, Appointing Finance Minister Panskov Government Representative In Debate. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (100)

Chernomyrdin 30 October Decree No. 1052 Raising Pay For MVD, Tax Police, And Customs Servicemen And Personnel. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (300) (Text)

Yeltsin-Signed 2 November Edict No. 1067 On Deadline For Sale Of Shares In Federal Ownership. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (200) (Text)

SECTION II: POLITICAL (INTERNATIONAL AND CIS AFFAIRS, ELECTIONS, CRIME, POLLUTION)

Government 12 October Decree No. 1004 Approving Appended (But Not Published) Draft Agreement With Azerbaijan On Cooperation In Geodesy, Cartography, And Related Topics. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (250)

Chernomyrdin 13 October Decree No. 1010 On Setting Up Russian National Emergency Humanitarian Response Corps To Take Part In International Relief Operations. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (1100)

Government 13 October Directive No. 1427 Approving Finance Ministry Proposal On Russian Participation In Augmenting Capital Of International Development Association In 1997-2006, Plus Velichenkov Commentary. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (150/300)

Government Directive No. 1414 Appointing Officers Of Intergovernmental Commission For Cooperation With Uzbekistan. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 5) (350) (Text)

Duma 20 October Decrees Nos. 1227, 1228 Adopting Laws Ratifying Friendship, Cooperation Treaty With Portugal, Consular Convention With Latvia, Submitting Them For Federation Council Examination. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 6) (150/150)

Chernomyrdin 23 October Directive No. 1467 Accepting MVD Proposal For Talks On Concluding Agreement On Cooperation In Combating Transport Crime With CIS States. (Moscow ROSSIYSIAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 4) (SO)

Federal Council 25 October Decrees Nos. 637, 638, 639, and 640 Approving Law Ratification Of Customs Union Agreement With Belarus; Approving Law On Ratification Of CIS Convention On Human Rights And Freedoms; Approving Law On Ratification Of Treaty On Friendship And Cooperation With Portugal; And Approving Law On Ratification Of Consular Convention

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With Latvia. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (100/1OO/100/100)

Presidential 1 November Directive No. 488 Forming Commission To Prepare Treaty On Settlement Of Relations And Cooperation Between North Ossetia And Ingushetia. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (500)

Presidential 3 November Edict No. 1069 On Additional Social Guarantees For Staffers Of Presidential Plenipotentiary's Mission In Chechnya. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (400)

Government 4 November Directive No. 1539 Appointing Nationalities Affairs Minister Mikhaylov Head Of Russian Delegation For Bonn Talks On Russian Germans' Problems. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (150) (Text)

Government 4 November Directive No. 1588 Allocating R2,468 Million To Territorial Administration Of Federal Organs Of Executive Power In Chechnya For Fourth Quarter Of 1995. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (100)

Federal Laws No. 162 Through 165 of 4 November On Ratification Of Consular Convention With Latvia; Ratification Of CIS Human Rights Convention; Ratification Of Customs Union Agreement With Belarus; And Ratification Of Friendship And Cooperation Treaty With Portugal.' (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (100/100/100/100)

Federal Law No. 166 Of 4 November On Amendments And Additions To Law On Rehabilitation Of Victims Of Political Repressions. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 4) (250)

SECTION III: SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL

Government 13 October Decree No. 1017 Approving Rules For Conducting Compulsory HIV Tests, Plus Text Of Rules. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Nov 95 p 6) (1300) (Text)

Government 13 October Directive No. 1423 Approving Space Agency's Proposal To Create Science And Production Association For Cooperation With Russian And Foreign Enterprises In Development Of New Generation Communications Satellites, Plus Commentary By Space Agency Aide Demokhovskoy. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 5) (400/400)

Regional Affairs

Chechnya Reportage: Politics, Negotiations, Military

Yeltsin Backs Election of Head in Dec

LD1511115595 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1057 GMT 15 Nov 95

[By Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 16 [date as received] (Itar-Tass) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday backed a proposal of the Chechen leadership to hold the elections of the republic's head parallel to the December elections to the State Duma (lower house of the Russian legislature), presidential spokesman Sergey Medvedev told Tass today.

The president voiced his support to combine elections in Chechnya during Wednesday's meeting with his personal envoy for the breakaway republic, Oleg Lobov.

Medvedev said that the president approved measures taken by his envoy aimed at bringing refugees back to Chechnya.

According to the press secretary, altogether about 200,000 refugees have already returned to their homes in Chechnya, while 100,000 out of them — during the past two months.

Yeltsin recommended Lobov to boost efforts in the restoration of war-ruined Chechnya attracting construction companies from other regions of the Russian Federation.

Yeltsin and Lobov also discussed the working schedule of Russia's policy-making Security Council until mid-1996, and preparations for a G-8 summit on nuclear security which is to be held in Moscow early next year.

Official Rules Out Talks With Dudayev

LD1411184495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 14 (Interfax) — The peace process in Chechnya is possible only within the framework of an extensive dialogue between various forces in Chechnya, Chechen Deputy Prime Minister Isa Aliroyev told a press conference in Moscow Tuesday. In this dialogue, there is no place for Dzhokhar Dudayev, "a sick person incapable of constructive talks," he added.

According to Aliroyev, Khasbulatov's statements on the need to involve Dudayev in the peace process is a "point

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of view of a person lacking an official status, though enjoying much authority among the people."

In answer to an Interfax question about the situation in Chechnya's government after recent personnel reshuffles, Aliroyev said there was consistency and succession (Doku Zavgayev replaced Salambek Khadzhiyev as prime minister, while National Accord Committee Chairman Umar Avturkhanov was re-assigned to Moscow — IF note).

Aliroyev said the Chechen government controls up to 70 percent of the republic's territory, "though this area of influence keeps shrinking as a result of inadequate federal attacks against civilians, for instance shelling a number of villages."

Moscow Reneges on Prisoner Exchange

LD1411174395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, Nov 14 (Interfax) — Chechnya's rebels have accused Russia of going back on an agreement to exchange prisoners.

Top rebel media spokesman Movladi Udugov told Interfax Russian authorities had refused to hand over to the rebels a 145-name list of Chechens held prisoner by the Russians and due to be exchanged for 14 Russian soldiers detained by the rebels.

In response, the rebels refused to release the 14 Russians and are now keeping them in southern Chechnya, Udugov said.

He also said the rebels had handed in to Russian authorities the names of another 1,438 Chechens who were supposed to have been detained but no confirmation had yet come from the Russians, Udugov said.

Hence "the Russian side is proving by its actions that those people are most likely no longer alive."

Separatists Demand Russian Withdrawal

LD1411184795 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, Nov 14 (Interfax) — An association of separatist Chechen political groups at a meeting on Monday [13 November] demanded complete withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya and accused Russia of "extremely gross violations" of a July 30 military accord between Moscow and the separatists.

The association, called the Assembly of Parties and Movements of the Chechen Republic — Ichkeria, was set up two weeks ago and brings together 25 parties and other groupings which stand for Chechnya's independence and are loyal to separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev, said one of the delegates to the meeting, held in the Chechen capital Groznyy.

Ruslan Chimayev, acting foreign minister in Dudayev's government, told Interfax the Assembly had issued an official statement demanding release of all "civilians forcibly detained" by the Russians and demanding implementation of the military accord. The statement said the agreement had practically been suspended and that the "Russian side has been committing extremely gross violations" of it.

Chimayev quoted the Assembly as saying elections in Chechnya were impossible before all Russian troops left the republic.

Federal Forces Accused of Attacks

LD1411125395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1110 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, Nov 14 (Interfax) — According to Dudayev loyalists, federal forces shelled positions held by Chechen armed formations in the west and south-east of Chechnya on 49 occasions in the past 24 hours, killing two Chechen civilians and wounding another three, including two women.

The villages of Achkhoy-Martan, Orekhovo and Staryi Achkhoy in Achkhoy-Martan District in western Chechnya, controlled by Chechen formations, came under artillery and missile fire, the Chechen rebel forces' press center told Interfax.

The villages of Dargo and Benoy in Vedeno District in Chechnya's south-east also came under fire, claim Chechen military sources, who maintain that federal troops used MI-24 helicopter gunships in Achkhoy-Martan and Shali Districts on four occasions.

Prosecutor Investigates Air Attack

LD1411133895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1208 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 14 (Interfax) — The Chief Military Prosecutor's office has started investigating the criminal case opened following the air attack on Roshni-Chu, Chechnya.

Chief Military Prosecutor Nikolay Panichev decided Monday [13 November] to submit the case to the investigation department, due to its complexity and importance.

Investigators are already studying the findings.

The criminal case on the October 8 air attack was opened on October 16 by the Groznyy I garrison

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military prosecutor on the basis of Articles #102 and #149 of the Criminal Code — first degree murder committed in a manner threatening many people and intentional destruction of personal property.

It is the second time the Chief Military Prosecutor's office is investigating a controversial case in North Caucasus in which Russian military may be involved. Earlier it started investigating the October seizure of an airport in Sleptsovskaya, Ingushetia.

The air attack on Roshni-Chu by unidentified planes caused numerous civilian casualties, reported to Interfax by the Dudayev side. Russian officials have not yet confirmed civilians losses in Roshni-Chu.

One person died and three civilians received bullet wounds when armed men in Defense Ministry helicopters seized Sleptsovskaya airport.

Army Commander Pessimistic on Security

LD1411134595 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1208 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, Nov 14 (Interfax) — The chief of the 58th army staff in Chechnya Maj. Gen. Anatoliy Sidyakin has described the situation in the republic as complex and peculiar. After the attempt on the life of Gen. Romanov all the unrelenting efforts to settle the armed conflict through talks were spoiled, he said.

"Moreover, in the past two months the militants have done what any normal warring person would do: they stored arms, ammunition and food," Sidyakin said.

"I am sure Dudayev's men won time and are now ready for a new military campaign", he added.

The general thinks attacks on federal troops will continue.

He has some hopes the situation might change for the better with the appearance of the new Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev and his team.

"So far I do not see any light at the end of the tunnel," Sidyakin summed up his impressions.

Premier Calls Situation 'Disaster'

LD1411204095 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1844 GMT 14 Nov 95

[By Nadezhda Anisimova and Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 14 (Itar-Tass) — What is happening in Chechnya now is a national disaster, Chechen Prime Minister Doku Zavgayev said on Tuesday, addressing the state commission for the socio-economic restoration of Chechnya.

He said the priority now is compensation to people who lost their housing in the war.

The federal budget has earmarked about five trillion roubles for this, but nothing has been paid so far to the shelterless through the fault of Chechnya's authorities, Zavgayev said.

The present Chechen government has set up a commission to bring the compensation to its addressees, he continued.

Zavgayev described Chechnya as a region of mass unemployment.

He said the population should be encouraged to take up vine and vegetable-growing, once major agricultural employments in Chechnya.

However, this requires investment by the state, Zavgayev stressed.

Russian presidential envoy to Chechnya Oleg Lobov, who attended the commission's meeting, described the accommodation of federal troops in Chechnya as "absolutely unbearable." He said financing of "power structures" remains the most urgent issue. No adequate funds are appropriated to provide troops with ammunition, outfit and food, and their engineering structures are hopelessly bad, Lobov said. He blamed the Russian Finance Ministry for failing to meet the funding timetable in October, with no appropriations reaching the Defence Ministry.

Russian First Deputy Economics Minister Andrey Shapovalyants laid out to the meeting the 1996 draft federal programme for economic rehabilitation of Chechnya. The programme earmarks for Chechnya 14.7 trillion roubles in appropriations and an additional 6.7 trillion to be found in progress of federal budget execution. The programme outlines a timetable for relaunching social and community services, and major industrial enterprises.

The restoration programme is to recruit additional finance as loans from government-authorised commercial banks and through a 995 billion rouble issue of housing certificates. The programme envisions contracts with 60 construction companies to build 1.8 million square metres of housing in 1996.

Fuel sales by Chechnya will remain a major channel of its revenues, Shapovalyants said. Chechnya's daily oil output is 4.5 thousand tonnes now.

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The state commission decided to polish the draft programme for a week before submitting it for approval by the Russian government.

Ingush President Ready for Talks With Russian Leaders

LD1411212995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1210 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] NAZRAN, Nov 14 (Interfax) — Ingushetia's President Ruslan Aushev is ready for talks with Russian leaders "to complete his part of the job" and normalize Ingush-Ossetian relations, Aushev's spokesman Kureish Agasiyev told Interfax today.

When President Yeltsin met with his Ossetian and Ingush counterparts on October 11, he gave his North Caucasian opposite numbers a month for reconciliation.

"The Ingush leader and many observers believe the leadership of North Ossetia, where refugees are to return, should play the key role in eliminating the effects of the October-November 1992 conflict," the source said.

The two republics are expected to sign a peace and cooperation treaty already this month, while Russia is expected to fund reconstruction work, tentatively estimated at 700 billion rubles.

Russia's Interior Ministry plans to significantly reinforce the mobile unit it has deployed to maintain law and order in areas with mixed population and help interim Russian governors. This is partially borne out by the fact that the former chief of the task force with the rank of colonel has been replaced by Major General Grigoriy Zhukov.

Sverdlovsk, Moscow Sign Accord on Separation of Powers

MK1411142695 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 2

[Unattributed "Provincial Chronicle" report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yekaterinburg — The first accord, concerning international and foreign trade relations, out of a package of documents on the separation of jurisdictions and powers between Sverdlovsk Oblast and the Russian Federation has been signed in Moscow by the Russian Foreign Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations Ministries and Sverdlovsk Oblast. The accord will take effect after a treaty on the separation of powers between the Federation and the oblast is signed by Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin and Sverdlovsk Oblast Governor Eduard Rossel.

Governor Eduard Rossel intends to reorganize in 1996 the bank taxation system in Sverdlovsk Oblast. In his view, "lowering the profit tax and the property tax for banks will draw additional investment into the oblast from other Russian provinces. The proposals on lessening the tax burden on the banking system of the region will be submitted by Mr. Rossel for consideration by the Oblast Duma when it passes the 1996 budget.

Economic Issues

Economic Minister Sees 'Breakthrough' on Inflation

MM1511093095 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 2

[Article by Economic Minister Yevgeniy Yasin: "We Refused to Fuel the Budget Deficit by Increasing the Money Supply"]

[FBIS Translated Text] This week the conciliation commission on the 1996 budget completed its work. We managed to reach a compromise on its main parameters. Above all the commission supported a budget concept which does not fuel the money supply, that is, it does not make payments from inflationary sources. In other words, the budget deficit has ceased to be the residual element in the budget equation. But how was the budget compiled in the past? First the expenditure figure was set, then the revenue, and the difference between them was the deficit, which was then covered by means of the money supply. It is an endless source, like a narcotic: You increase the doses, and the economy is ruined....

We have rejected the narcotic, and now we set the budget deficit before we outline possible expenditure.

All the commission's members agreed that if domestic and foreign loans are the only means of covering the deficit, they must each be limited. If we take foreign loans we will sink even deeper into the debt trap that already holds us. We cannot go on taking loans indefinitely; there is a certain limit. It is determined by the amount necessary to service the foreign debt. In that case it should not exceed 25 percent of export revenue. In our country this indicator is 35 percent. We are currently holding talks on restructuring the foreign debt so as to bring that figure down. If those talks end successfully I believe that it will be possible to approach a figure of 7-8 percent.

As for domestic borrowing, the figure there is not all that great. This is because we did not resort to this financial instrument until 1995. Next year the domestic debt figure must not exceed 50 trillion rubles. Otherwise we will again create a situation such as we have now when state securities are too lucrative!

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This attracts customers, of course, but it also increases the domestic borrowing requirement. And when it comes to servicing the short-term securities debt approximately 80-85 percent of money supply is used to redeem previous issues. Thus we... increase budget expenditure, indeed we resorted to borrowing to cover that expenditure in the first place. In addition, imbalances inevitably develop in the financial market, all of whose segments are closely interconnected. And if the yield in the state securities market is too high, funds begin migrating there. It becomes harder for enterprises to obtain credit, problems develop with circulating capital, and the flow of investments is reduced. Yet investment activity is the main factor attesting to economic recovery.

In turn the real restoration of the economy and the stabilization and renewal of economic growth are possible only after we defeat inflation. I would consider an annual inflation rate of 20-25 percent, 30 percent at most, to be a victory. Investment activity can increase with figures such as those.

The most difficult period — September-October — has now passed. And passed successfully, I believe. In September the inflation rate was 4.5 percent and in October 4.7 percent. If the seasonal factor is removed from the equation (in all countries with a normal economy there is bound to be a certain rise in prices for food, primarily fruit and vegetables, and for fuel in the fall, and we are no exception in this regard), in the fall the inflation rate is even lower than in August.

And in November and December, I believe, this figure will fall even further. It could be as low as 3 percent or perhaps slightly higher. All this is evidence of a lowering of the inflationary expectations of the components of the market and of a definite breakthrough toward financial stabilization. And that is the most important result of this year.

Livshits Discusses 'Production Sharing' Law

MK1511084895 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 11 Nov 95 p 3

[Report by Andrey Bagrov: "Past and Future of President's Economic Policy. Law Unworthy of Great Russia Will Be Passed After All"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It is hard to see precisely what Boris Yeltsin will undertake in the economic field from what was uttered in the press conference of the president's economic aide, Aleksandr Livshits, in the POSTFACTUM news agency office yesterday. At the same time, it became clear what the president is not going to do. "A law on production sharing will be passed in one form or another, but most likely by the next parliament." This phrase is supposed to put an end to arguments about whether the president will intervene in the process of creating a legal base for production sharing [last two words in English]. The presidential staff's confidence in the favorable future of the law sharply contrasts with the stance of the Federation Council speaker, who declared once again yesterday that the present production sharing law is wrong "from the first line to the last."

Presidential aide Aleksandr Livshits stated yesterday that Western investors are interested precisely in a production sharing law rather than in a presidential edict on this subject. Thereby he greatly reassured foreigners who expect that this rather important segment of corporate law will sooner or later be created precisely by parliament, rather than having a legally shaky foundation in the form of a presidential edict. One should observe that even without this statement, the probability of an edict putting into operation the main provisions of a production sharing law was very low — legalizing production sharing agreements calls for meddling with the tax legislation, something the president has no right to do. But still, taking account of Russian traditions, what Livshits said was worthwhile.

There remains unresolved, however, a much more important question of when and precisely what production sharing law is going to be passed. Aleksandr Livshits admitted the obvious: The law will not be passed by this parliament this year. The present version of the law approved with difficulty by the State Duma was blocked by the Federation Council, with virtually no chance of becoming unblocked by the conciliation commission. The stance of its main opponent — chairman of the upper chamber of parliament, Vladimir Shumeyko — is well known. In a specially called press conference yesterday, the speaker reiterated his negative view of this law. Shumeyko thinks the law takes no account of Russia's strategic national interests and can only mean a momentary advantage for Russia. The speaker thinks the most important thing is not tax privileges established by the law for foreign investors, but "the entire law from the first to the last clause." In Shumeyko's opinion, the law "has not been written the way a law of the great Russian state should be."

Thus, the passing of a production sharing law will be inevitably postponed even if because it is practically impossible to include in the plan of parliament, which is working out its last days. Hence it is also very difficult to predict its future: It is unknown what a new Duma will say about the heritage of the old one, whether there is going to be a new government in Russia, and what it will think about production sharing (Viktor Chernomyrdin's cabinet was literally fighting for this draft law); and finally, how much more flexible the next Federation Council will be, since Vladimir Shumeyko's chances to make it there are very great.

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International Affairs

Official on Role of NATO Contingent to Ex-Yugoslavia

AU1411220195 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 10 Nov 95 p 5

["Express interview" with Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Volodymyr Khandohiy by HOLOS UKRAYINY correspondent Anatoliy Martsynovskyy; place and date not given: "Will Ukrainian Soldiers Remain in Bosnia?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Khandohiy] For the time being, they remain. Recently, there was a rotation of the 240th Battalion deployed in Sarajevo. Although the course of events in ex-Yugoslavia is difficult to forecast. It is possible that some amendments will be made regarding its place of deployment and so on.

Regarding its participation in the NATO contingent, this is not only a matter of financing. It involves a whole complex of issues. We have stated our readiness and interest. However, the form in which it will participate does not only depend upon us, but also upon how this fits the NATO concept. Perhaps other forms of cooperation will be suggested to us. This question is in a stage of discussion, and it is still too early to give definitive answers. All the more so since the NATO contingent will only enter Bosnia if Yugoslav leaders reach an accord at the negotiations currently in progress in the United States.

Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation Signed With Croatia

LD1411202795 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1745 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Zagreb — Ukraine and Croatia have agreed the final version of a bilateral treaty on friendship and cooperation. The two countries' delegations met for talks on 6 and 7 November.

The document says that Ukraine and the Republic of Croatia will develop relations as "friendly states, on the basis of universally recognized international legal standards, equality and common interest in the strengthening of security in Europe." The final version will include several amendments made by each side.

Kuchma To Discuss Sino Relations in Beijing

LD1411164195 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1502 GMT 14 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Marat Abdulkhatin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BEIJING, November 14 — Problems linked with commercial and economic relations, and with the development of military-technical cooperation will be among the main items on the agenda of the upcoming talks between Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and the top Chinese leadership.

Itar-Tass has learned from trustworthy sources here that the Ukrainian president will pay an official visit to China in the first ten days of December. He will have talks and meetings with PRC Chairman Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng.

Several large compensation contracts were concluded during Jiang Zemin's visit to Kiev last September. They helped to balance out trade between the two countries. Ukraine is now delivering to China machines and products of its heavy industry. According to available information, the total trade turnover between the two countries slightly topped 900 million U.S. dollars last year. Due to lack of financial means, Kiev was compelled to mostly sell its goods, buying nothing in return. This explains why the share of Ukrainian exports in the overall trade turnover had reached almost 850 million dollars.

Moreover, both sides are displaying interest in the promotion of military-technical cooperation. Local analysts believe there are real and quite broad opportunities for this. Ukraine possesses a large military-industrial complex. China is very much interested, for instance, in the Nikolayev Shipbuilding Yards, which are capable of building large warships and auxiliary craft.

Compliance With Arms Reduction Commitments Raises Prestige

LD1311190895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1752 GMT 13 Nov 95

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, November 13 (Interfax-Ukraine) — Ukraine's compliance with the commitments as regards reduction of nuclear and conventional weapons "has helped towards an improvement of her political prestige and heightened her influence in Europe". This is the view expressed by Marko Carnavale of the NATO Political Department for Central and Eastern Europe.

November 16 is the deadline by which Ukraine is to meet her commitments placed on record in the Agreement on Conventional Weapons in Europe (ACWE).

"Ukraine has met new friends and partners," Carnavale said.

He also underscored that the NATO leaders are planning to maintain "good relations" with Ukraine and Russia whatever relations between these two states may be.

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Within the framework of the Agreement on Conventional Weapons in Europe, Ukraine has scrapped 1974 tanks, 1551 combat armored vehicles and 550 war planes.

In keeping with her commitments, Ukraine has to dismantle 46 SS-24 missiles and 30 SS-19 ones. Under the tripartite statement by the Presidents of Ukraine, Russia and USA of January 1994, nuclear warheads are withrdawn from Ukraine to Russia in exchange for fuel for Ukrainian nuclear power plants.

National Affairs

Draft Constitution Introduces Bicameral Parliament

LD1411181195 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — A group of government experts has completed work on the draft Constitution of Ukraine, to be submitted to the Constitutional Commission on 20 November. According to reliable sources, the draft Constitution envisages a bicameral parliament, with the lower house elected according to a mixed system based on majority voting and proportional representation. The upper house will comprise of regional representatives elected by majority voting from three constituencies for each region. Government experts believe a bicameral parliament will enhance the parliament's representative power.

The local government structure is also changed. According to the draft, local councils at the upper level will be formed from delegates from the lower one, rather than elected directly.

Kuchma, Security Council Consider Crimean Tatar Issue

LD1511120595 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1100 GMT 15 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Leonid Kuchma, Ukraine's president and chairman of the National Security Council [NSC] chaired a meeting of the NSC presidium on 15 November. The presidium considered urgent tasks facing the executive regarding the settlement of the Crimean-Tatar problem. The secretary of the National Security Council, Volodymyr Horbulin, delivered a report on the issue. The presidium analysed the activities of the state executive structures aimed at solving sociopolitical as well as political and legal problems facing Crimean Tatars. Much attention was paid to the implementation of the Ukrainian Government's decisions on the above range of issues. The essence of the decisions made at the sitting of the National Security Council is to ensure favorable conditions for the Crimean Tatars' integration into Ukrainian society.

Kuchma, Speaker Agree on Constitution

LD1411200395 Kiev UT-1 Television Network in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 14 Nov 95

[No video available]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ukrainian president and the Crimean Supreme Council now share the same opinions as to the autonomy's new constitution, Crimean Supreme Council Speaker Yevhen Suprunyuk said after an hour-long meeting with President Kuchma. He described the meeting as most productive.

According to Suprunyuk, the two officials agreed on most issues, with a few minor amendments. The president had almost no fundamental objections that would have infringed on the Crimean Republic's rights, the speaker said. I felt that the Ukrainian Government, represented by the president, is willing to accommodate Crimeans, he added.

Suprunyuk plans to hold several meetings at the Ukrainian Supreme Council to arrange further consultations with Ukrainian deputies and factions on the Crimean Constitution.

Crimean Tatar Movement Begins Hunger Strike

LD1411172195 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1345 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol — The Central Council of the Organization of the Crimean Tatar National Movement made a decision at its session yesterday to carry out a staggered political hunger strike. Three members of the Organization of the Crimean Tatar Movement Central Council began the hunger strike on 13 November. Other members of the Organization of the Crimean Tatar Movement, which numbers 15 people in all, will take over after seven days. The Central Council views this action as implementation of the resolution by the Crimean Tatar people's Majlis to carry out non-violent acts of civil disobedience.

The Organization of the Crimean Tatar Movement Central Council has set forth its demands to the Ukrainian Supreme Council: They include the drawing up of legislative acts, which will grant the Crimean Tatar people guaranteed representation in the Crimean Supreme Council and bodies of local self-government of not less than one-third of the total deputy corps.

The Organization of the Crimean Tatar Movement Central Council is proposing that articles be added to the Ukrainian Constitution, which will reflect the political rights of the Crimean Tatars as an indigenous people — the rights of a subject of Crimean statehood. The Central Council demands that the Crimean Constitution not be

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approved unless it is coordinated with the Crimean Tatars' highest representative body, the Majlis.

"Taking into account the disregard of Crimean Tatars' interests by the Ukrainian and Crimean Supreme Councils, it is proposed that the third kurultay [congress] of the Crimean Tatar people examine the issue of whether it is expedient for the Kurultay deputy faction to remain in the Crimean Supreme Council."

Vice President Says Credit Worthiness 'Sufficiently High'

LD1411200795 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1647 GMT 14 Nov 95

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, November 14 (Interfax-Ukraine) — Ukraine is at a "sufficiently high level" of credit-worthiness, Vice Premier Roman Shpek in charge of the economy told the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada session today.

R. Shpek was speaking within the framework of the Government Day in Parliament. The Vice Premier has informed the legislature about the situation in Ukraine's cooperation with international financial organizations and foreign countries.

According to him, Ukraine's total debt for loans and credits is around 8 bn USD nowadays.

The backlog to former Soviet countries, primarily Russia and Turkmenistan, as R. Shpek disclosed, is tantamount to $5 000 mn, to international financial organizations — $2 000 mn.

In 1995, Ukraine has received financial aid worth around 4 000 mn USD, including $472 mn in Stand-by credit, $380 mn — STF credit from the International Monetary Fund, $365 mn of rehabilitation credit from the World Bank and $146 mn — on interstate credit lines.

The sum total of financial assistance to Ukraine also includes the volume of restructuring of debts with Russia (an agreement to that effect was signed in February 1995). The total volume of restructured debts has closed at 2 542 mn USD.

Ukraine is also expecting an international financial aid of around $715 mn to be rendered in the fourth quarter of the current year.

Thus, in particular, the third installment of Stand-by credit of $350 mn is expected, as well as extra funds to the tune of $485 mn, including those from the European Community — 110 mn, the USA — 175 mn and Japan — 200 mn USD.

Sixteen Coal Mines Resume Protest Strike

LD1511085195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2236 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [No dateline as received] Starting on the 14 October evening shift, we were forced to announce a resumption of the protest strike in the mines of the coal industry for members of the Independent Trade Union of Miners of Ukraine." This was stated to the Ukrinform-TASS by Mykhaylo Volynets, chairman of the Independent Trade Union of Miners of Ukraine.

At a meeting with leaders of the Independent Trade Union of Miners of Ukraine, Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine Vasyl Yevtukhov promised, on behalf of the government, to pay the miners back-pay before 10th November. This promise has still not been kept. There is no guarantee that a mechanism will be worked out before the end of the month for removing the restrictions on miners' pensions and for overcoming the nonpayments crisis in the sector.

Sixteen mines stopped extracting coal without waiting for the evening shift, the leader of the Independent Trade Union of Miners of Ukraine reported.

Chlorine Accident Causes 'Mass Poisoning' of Workers

AU1511093695 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 11 Nov 95 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Translated Text] A mass poisoning of workers with chlorine occurred at the Zaporizhzhya Titanium-Magnesium Combine. A UKRINFORM correspondent managed to find out that the chlorine escaped from a pipeline as a result of an accident and 16 people suffered serious chemical burns.

According to the Zaporizhzhya City Executive Committee, all the victims were promptly hospitalized at City Emergency Hospital number five and at medical unit number seven of the "Zaporizhstal" Combine and "Dniprospetstal" Plant. The victims are taken care of at intensive care units; two of them are in a very serious condition.

The causes of the accident are being investigated and cleanup operations are under way.

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Zhirinovskiy Wants To Unite Russia, Ukraine

AU1511105095 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 11 Nov 95 p 1

[Unattributed report: "They Will Not Take Root if Planted in the Same Hole"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the eve of the October Revolution anniversary a no less revolutionary action took place in the neutral zone of the Ukrainian-Russian border. It involved two candidates for people's deputies — one Russian and one Ukrainian: The notorious Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the still not famous Kharkiv-American businessman Volodymyr Bezymyanyy. They referred to the action as the first encounter between two future presidents of Russia and Ukraine. Without excessive modesty, the candidates for people's deputies told journalists that that time was not too far away and that, meanwhile, for exercise, they had decided to obtain deputy mandates of the Russian Duma and of the [Ukrainian] Supreme Council.

"If my party comes to power, I will take all measures to unite Ukraine with Russia," stated Zhirinovskiy.

Asked what he was going to do if Ukraine declines to join Russia, Vladimir Volfovich [Zhirinovskiy] replied thus: You do not want to join Russia? Then Russia will join Ukraine.

To make sure that the friendship between the two fraternal nations gains strength and thrives, the "presidents" planted two trees in the same hole — the Russian rowan tree and the Ukrainian chestnut tree.

However, even amateur gardeners know that it is not worth planting two different trees in a single hole. They will not take root.

Electoral Association Brings Together 21 Candidates

LD1411211295 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1845 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — An electoral association named "We", backed by the Reforms parliamentary group, announced its launch on 14 November. The association brings together 21 candidates running for parliament in the 10 December by-election, including president of the Ukrrichflot river shipping company Mykola Slavov, editor-in-chief of the VECHIRNIY KIEV newspaper Vitaliy Karpenko, and president of the Praveks concern Leonid Chernavetskyy.

If elected, the members of "We" will press for a new constitution based on international legal standards; an end to confrontation between the president, parliament and government and a clear delimitation of their powers; the introduction of the hryvna and financial stabilization; support to state-funded companies and organizations, new job creation and retraining of the unemployed.

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Belarus

President Halts Power Cuts to Military Garrisons

MM1511124395 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Valeriy Kovalev under the "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and News Agency Correspondents Report" rubric: "President Saves People From Freezing"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Minsk — Because of a shortage of financial resources the Belarusian Defense Ministry's debts for communal services, which totaled 199 billion Belarusian rubles as of 1 October 1995, are increasing.

In trying to extract the debts from the military, the communal services are following the example of their Russian colleagues and increasingly resorting to the tactic of "arm-twisting" — they are terminating the supply of electricity, gas, and hot water to military installations. Such instances have already occurred in Minsk, Grodno, and a number of other major garrisons. Inhabitants of the "Uruchye" [as transliterated] military installation located on the outskirts of the Belarusian capital have been driven to despair by this outrage and have been forced to send "envoys" to republic President Alyaksandr Lukashenka. He has instructed that the practice of cutting off military installations' electricity, gas, and heating supplies is to cease, even if the consumers are in debt.

Lukashenka Reorganizes Sports, Culture Ministries

WS1511105995 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0730 GMT 15 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has issued Decree No. 456 entitled 'On the Changing of the Structure of Central Government Bodies of the Republic of Belarus' with a view "to raise the efficiency of central government bodies' activities". According to this decree, the Committee on Sports at the Ministry of Culture and the Press has been reorganised into a Ministry of Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Belarus. The Council on Religious Affairs at the Ministry of Culture and the Press has been placed under the authority of the Cabinet of Ministers. The Ministry of Culture and the Press has been divided into a Ministry of Culture and a State Committee of the Republic of Belarus on the Press.

Moldova

Official Opposes Peacekeeper Status for Russian Troops

AU1411193995 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 2015 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau, November 13 (INFOTAG) — Moldovan Parliament Chairman Petru Lucinschi considers transformation of the Dniester-based Russian troops into a peacekeeping unit unacceptable for the Republic of Moldova.

Last Friday [10 November], Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev told journalists that the problem of the former 14th Army could be solved through giving a peacekeeper status to the still remaining Russian contingent in the region. He said, the matter had been discussed with President Boris Yeltsin, who had given his preliminary OK to such a variant.

Grachev stated a necessity to enter into appropriate negotiations with the official Chisinau, as Russia considers such a transformation variant possible. He stressed: After the shift in the Russian Army Command in Dniester, the contingent enlists only Russian citizens, and there are no local servicemen any more. Petru Lucinschi told INFOTAG that "such variant is totally new for us. We have never negotiated it before".

"Our stance is well known: the Russian Army problem can and must be solved in the framework of the Army Withdrawal Agreement signed between Chisinau and Moscow. The three-year withdrawal timing envisaged in the document is quite sufficient for the removal, and there is no need to consider new variants", Lucinschi stressed. "The Russian Federation already has its peacekeepers in the region — in accordance with the Agreement of July 21, 1992", he said. "One should admit that peace in the region is maintained not by the peacekeeper's bayonets, but as a result of the consistent policy of the Moldovan leadership, as well as thank to Tiraspol's abstaining from using force. We are resolute to continue solving the Dniester dispute by using exceptionally peaceful means, and not by augmenting the peacekeeper contingent", the Speaker said.

Russia has plunged into an active election campaign, and there is no sense hoping that the State Duma will ratify the Army Withdrawal Agreement now, he said, and pointed out that, fortunately, not all political forces in Russia share the conservative position of the current Duma. For an example, he referred to the fact that the Duma took decisions twice to prolong the presence of the Russian Army in Dniester, and the Council of the Federation twice rejected the decisions.

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Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Interviewed on Progress of Democracy, Economy

LD1311215095 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1418 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Almaty, 13 Nov — Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev admitted that the presence of a political opposition in the republic "creates some difficulties for the authorities." At the same time, he said that "if people do not have the opportunity to freely express their opinions and wishes this can lead to uncontrolled outbursts of dissatisfaction, social upheaval, and violence." In such a situation "extremists of all kinds surface from the murky depths" and "just stir things up and can lead the people to social catastrophe."

In an exclusive interview with ITAR-TASS, which Nazarbayev gave on the eve of his meeting with Boris Yeltsin in Moscow, he said that effective democratic mechanisms should function in society which "enable a constructive and loyal opposition to put forward its view of problems and its methods of resolving them and the state power bodies to know, analyze and take these proposals into account." "We," the president stressed, "are also prepared to integrate opposition figures, who agree and are able to work, into government structures."

The president explained that the recent adoption of the second constitution in the past few years was necessary because the republic was at a stage of transition to a completely new society. In this constitution, he stressed, a number of problems being debated in society had been resolved justly and in a manner acceptable to the majority of people. The basic law was adopted on behalf of all the people of Kazakhstan. The Russian language is given official status in it, operating on an equal basis with the Kazakh state language and ideological and political diversity are confirmed as an important component in the democratic structure.

The Kazakh president thinks that to speak now of the republic's achievements would "scarcely be justified given the difficult, even compelling problems" which it and all the post-soviet republics are facing. At the same time he noted that Kazakhstan had achieved something over the past few years. He said the 17 million people in Kazakhstan "live in peace and accord with one another and with the peoples of the countries around us, first and foremost Russia" and the multi-ethnic population "is not being torn apart by civil strife or interethnic squabbles."

There has been some progress in the economic sphere. Kazakhstan, the president said, has achieved macroeconomic stabilization, the country's gold reserves are increasing, the slump in production is slowing down markedly, in some branches of industry there has even been a noticeable, if small, increase in production and there is no large-scale unemployment.

In short, the country is with difficulty, but quite confidently, scrambling out of the abyss, Nazarbayev stressed and he noted that hopes for the recovery of its economy are based on its own riches and the influx of foreign investment.

Nazarbayev Views 'Gunkin' Incident, Russian Media

LD1411134695 Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network in Russian 1605 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer, in Kazakh] A meeting of Almaty city civil servants was convened to define requirements and plans for the future — but turned into something different. The meeting was attended by President Nursultan Nazarbayev. The city administrator, Shalbay Kulmakhanov, noted that many problems have been solved during the past few years. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Question, in Russian, from unidentified man in the hall] I have a question about something that worries me. I think it worries not only me, but many of the residents of Almaty. The mass media have recently dwelt on the question of the so-called Captain Gunkin [arrested leader of the unregistered Union of Semirechiye Cossacks]. I would like to hear your opinion, your assessment of this question.

[Nazarbayev, in Russian] I myself learned about this incident from the press. Nobody in the leadership of the republic had anything to do with this. [passage omitted]

First, passions are being forced over this question, which may destabilize society and have bad consequences. That is why, in your presence, I am today instructing the prosecutor-general of the republic, who is sitting here — Mr. Narikbayev — to study and resolve this case. If citizen Gunkin was detained illegally, then those who are guilty will be severely punished, and he will be freed. If he broke the law, he will be tried by a court according to the law. Nobody can hinder this, including the mass media. They should not put pressure on the court. Nobody is against the Cossacks; we are against the violation of the law of Kazakhstan.

Second, if anyone violates the law, then a provision of the Constitution of the country comes into effect; again, everyone should read and know the Constitution before committing any action, which has a direct impact on prohibiting the activities of any associations, citizens, or mass media sowing inter-ethnic and class discord. This is exactly what we have in this case. This means that after the investigation of the activities of the public

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associations, the mass media — including foreign mass-media correspondents involved — may be prohibited by court order from reporting on the case, as it may destabilize the situation. Whether the guilt be moral or political, or maybe judicial, this is for the court to decide.

Responsibility for the prohibition of such media bodies lies with the mass media, and citizen Sidorova and the public association which she supposedly leads — if this association officially authorized her to state her notorious lie. The prosecutor general, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs must be ready to make everyone implement the requirements of the Constitution. I order these same bodies to supervize the implementation of my instruction. Nobody and nothing can stop this. This is how it is done in all civilized states. Perhaps Mrs. Sidorova wants to enter parliament on the back of this great scandal. That is what it is all about.

Third, all the people of Kazakhstan must show patience and wisdom while the elections to the State Duma of Russia are being held. In 6 months they will also elect a new president, or the same one again. Certain politicians will stop at nothing in order to get elected, to get into power. The vicious habit is to sling mud at neighboring, friendly countries, to interfere in their internal affairs. As you know, all the presidents of the Central Asian countries and of Belarus have already been insulted. We must also remember that we are conducting an election campaign here, too.

I clearly remember that the bloody war in Nagorno-Karabakh was started by USSR [Supreme Soviet] candidate deputies in 1989. I was a witness; I know. The blood of the people, the ordinary people, is being shed in rivers, but not that of the politicians who began this conflict. This is why I am in a mood to act determinedly.

Some do not like the growing trust, accord, and friendship between people in Kazakhstan. Let us treat those who are sowing distrust between Kazakhs and Russians as the enemies of rapprochement between Russia and Kazakhstan, and of friendship between our peoples. I am sure that everyone supports us in this. Do you agree with this assessment? [applause]

And fourth, this morning we sent the most reliable information to all the editorial boards of the television channels, broadcasting stations, and newspapers of Russia about this [Gunkin] incident. Plus, there is this statement of mine today. We, all the people of Kazakhstan, have the chance to examine the objectivity of the information from the Kazakh and Russian editorial boards of newspapers and television, as well as their attitude to the people of Kazakhstan. If this information appears on television today, and in tomorrow's newspapers, then we will say thank you, and bow before them. If not, then it is sheer prejudice.

Why do we need such mass media in Kazakhstan? They can say anything they like from over there, and nobody can answer from Kazakhstan. Whatever they say, our people once believed the newspaper PRAVDA and the others. They took everything as the truth. So I now say that one should not believe a single word of the Russian mass media.

And finally, I have a meeting with the president of Russia, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, set for tomorrow [14 November]. The purpose of the meeting is to visit him in hospital, to support him, if I can, as a colleague and — I say this openly — as a friend, in this difficult time for him. No one will stop me doing so, if that is what all this hue and cry is all about. That is all. [end recording]

President Appoints New Minister of Economy

LD1411134295 Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The president of the Republic of Kazakhstan issued edicts appointing [Umirzak Yestayevich Shukeyev] as minister of the economy, and also appointing [Gulzhan Dzhanpeyisovna Karagusova] as chairman of the National Commission on Securities of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

[Umirzak Yestayevich Shukeyev] was born in 1964, a Kazakh. He graduated from the Moscow Institute of Economy and Statistics. He is a candidate of economic sciences. After graduating from the Institute, he worked as a research scientist at the Scientific-Research Institute of the State Planning Committee [Gosplan]. He was later a consultant to the Supreme Economic Council under the Kazakh president, economic advisor to the president of the republic, deputy head of the presidential and cabinet apparatus. Since December 1993 he has been deputy head of administration of South Kazakhstan region.

Gulzhan Dzhanpeyisovna Karagusova was born in 1950, a Kazakh. She graduated from the Kirov Kazakh State University. She is a doctor of economics and a professor. From 1972 she worked as a lecturer at the Kirov Kazakh State University. She worked as an assistant, a senior lecturer, a docent, and a professor. Since June 1994 she has been an aide to the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and head of the Council of Economic Consultants under the president.

By edict of the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Altay Abullayevich Tleuberdin is released from the post of minister of economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in connection with his transfer to other work.

By edict of the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan, [Serik Gabdullayevich Temirbulatov] is released from the post of chairman of the Commission of Securities of the Republic of Kazakhstan in connection with his transfer to other work.

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Armenia

Russian Deputy Minister Chernys 'omments on NATO

NC1411141195 Yerevan NOYAN TAPAN in English 0523 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] 14/11/95 NOYAN TAPAN— "Russia's attitude towards NATO is more or less normal", Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Albert Chernyshev said at a November 13 news conference. According to Chernyshev, after liquidation of Warsaw Treaty it was planned to transform NATO into political-military, and then political structure. NATO is a rudiment of the cold war and it has not yet transformed into a structure ensuring security in Europe, although the situation now is quite different: there is no Warsaw Treaty and the USSR. "NATO's attempt to move to the East is facing growing resistance on our part", Russian top diplomat said, adding that all this is done to exert pressure on Russia and other former Soviet republics. Chernyshev said that they should not play old games.

Concerning NATO's presence in Transcaucasia, Chernyshev said: "As Caucasians say, "Where Caucasus is and Where NATO is!", in other words distance between Caucasus and NATO is great". According to the treaty, NATO has specific areas of responsibility. Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe and Co-Chairmanship are successfully working in the region. "We believe there is no need in NATO's presence here. Let it stay where it is", Chernyshev said.

Comments on Relations With Iran

LD1411155995 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0911 GMT 14 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correwspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yerevan, 14 Nov (ITAR-TASS) — First Deputy Foreign Minister Albert Chernyshev, who arrived in Yerevan on Monday [13 November], said: "We think Iran is an important side in regional politics, and will play its role whether or not somebody likes it or not."

According to Chernyshev, "it is neccessary to take Iran into consideration, and cooperate with it when our interests coincide." "This concerns various projects in the Caucasus area, the Caspian Sea, and Central Asia, as well as some political issues," the Russian diplomat noted.

Chernyshev said that at issue at the Yerevan talks [as received] is the situation in the region, particularly relations with Iran. "Iran is displaying great interest in developing relations with Russia and Armenia in areas which interest us, and we will develop these mutually beneficial relations," he said. Chernyshev stressed that "We are against Iran's isolation."

Armenian Foreign Minister Vahan Papazyan agrees with the Russian diplomat's approach. He said: "We will develop relations with Iran in areas which are profitable for us." The Armenian minister does not rule out the possibility that Russia and Armenia will jointly consider the possibility of creating such "triangles" and "tetrahedrons" after Chernyshev's visit to Armenia. "The Armenian and Russian stances on Iran are sufficiently similar and identical," the minister added.

Views Caspian States' Interests

NC1511093295 Yerevan NOYAN TAPAN in English 1142 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] "The Caspian and all that connected with it are the issues of strategic and economic importance, as well as issues of national security of all 5 countries of the Caspian basin, namely Russia, Iran, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. We do not recognize others' strategic interests in this region", Deputy Foreign Minister of Russia Albert Chernyshev said at a November 13 news conference. However, according to him, first of all it is necessary to settle the problem with the status of the Caspian Sea, which will become a legal basis for cooperation.

The status of the Caspian Sea has 5 aspects: 1. environment protection, and raising of water level; 2. biological resources (some 70 percent of sturgeons live here); 3. navigation; 4. the necessity to establish a special cooperation structure. According to Chernyshev, there is no great differences on the aforementioned issues. However, the sides have major differences on the fifth aspect — oil resources. At present the sides are seeking for a compromise.

Russian top diplomat noted that Russia's governmental commission visited all 5 countries of the Caspian basin and achieved mutual understanding in Turkmenistan and Iran. Russia and Azerbaijan take quite different positions on this issue. Kazakhstan's positions falls in the middle between that of Azerbaijan and that of Russia. "We hope that it will be possible to settle these problems in a civilized way", Chernyshev said.

Chernyshev Seeks Impetus in Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict

LD1411164895 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1547 GMT 14 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] YEREVAN, November 14 — Progress toward settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh is

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smaller than the efforts in this direction leads to expect, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Albert Chernyshev told journalists in Yerevan on Tuesday.

He said a fresh impetus is needed to speed up the settlement process. The Russian side is concerned over the fact that the Karabakh crisis remains unsettled. The sides get rigid in their attitudes and there is no imaginative approach to the quest for compromises, Chernyshev said. He emphasised the importance of the ceasefire that lasts for 17 months.

Armenian Foreign Minister Vahan Papazyan said that Russia as the co-chairman of the Minsk group of OSCE plays an important role in the peace process. As a side interested in the earlier settlement of the conflict, Armenia appreciates Russia's role in the settlement process, Papazyan said. He expressed the hope that Russia will continue playing an active role in the Karabakh settlement.

"The Russian stand on the Karabakh settlement is close to Armenia's positions. They are actually identical as both countries believe that it is necessary to preserve and consolidate the ceasefire which will serve as the basis for the advance," Papazyan said.

Papazyan: Russia's Role 'Important'

NC1511095695 Yerevan NOYAN TAPAN in English 1142 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] 14/11/95 NOYAN TAPAN—"Russia plays very important role as a Co-Chairman in the process of settlement of the Karabakh conflict. Majority of proposals and ideas promoting progress of the peaceful process are suggested by the Russian Foreign Ministry represented in the process by Vladimir Kazimirov and his associates", Armenian Foreign Minister Vahan Papazyan said at a November 13 news conference.

Papazyan voiced hope that Russia will continue its active role in the peaceful process. Papazyan stressed the importance of 18-month cease-fire and the necessity to maintain it.

Azerbaijan

Aliyev's Party Wins Majority of Proportional Vote

NC1411163295 Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Nov 14 (AFP) — Azerbaijan President Geydar Aliyev's party garnered some 70 percent of the proportional vote in sharply contested legislative elections here, according to preliminary official results released Tuesday [14 November].

Aliyev's Yeni Azerbaycan [New Azerbaijan] Party won 17 or 18 of 25 parliamentary seats elected by proportional representation in Sunday's vote.

The others went to the Popular [People's] Front, the main opposition party permitted to compete in the proportional poll, and the small National Independence Party.

No results were released for the remaining 100 seats in the assembly, elected by majority vote in constituencies, said an electoral commission spokesman quoted by the Interfax news agency. The full results are not expected for another week.

No results have been announced in Sunday's referendum on a draft constitution that would significantly expand Aliyev's powers.

The Popular Front of former president Abulfaz Elchibey, overthrown in June 1993, has denounced the elections as "absolutely non democratic."

International observers pointed to electoral irregularities but stopped short of calling the voting invalid.

Aliyev Discusses Election Results, Caspian Sea Oil

LD1411182995 Moscow NTV in Russian 1635 GMT 13 Nov 95

[Interview with Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev by correspondent Leonid Parfenov for the "Hero of the Day" program on 12 November at the presidential residence in Baku — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Good evening! Another "Hero of the Day" program is on the air. The results of the parliamentary elections held in Azerbaijan yesterday became known today. Supporters of Geydar Aliyev won the majority of seats. A referendum on the new constitution of Azerbaijan was held at the same time. The Constitution was adopted. That, of course, has strengthened the position of the Azerbaijani president. Geydar Aliyev received a "Hero of the Day" film crew in his Baku residence yesterday evening.

[Parfenov] The mass media of Azerbaijan recently told the world about another attempt on your life. They wanted to shoot down your airplane. Do you think that this was timed to coincide with the elections?

[Aliyev] Yes, that was timed to coincide with the elections, because we were preparing to adopt a new constitution. I can give my own analysis, too, because all these attempts at a state coup, attempts to carry out an act of terrorism against me, the president, have always been linked — because an investigation is underway and much has come to light. If Aliyev can be got rid

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of now, the parliament, which was elected in 1990 and which retains its powers — may legitimize all of those who want, after terror has been wreaked in the state, to carry out their functions here in a legitimate way. [passage omitted]

[Parfenov] Some of your present enemies were at one time your allies, for instance, Mr. Guseynov [former prime minister] was a cornerstone of the Cabinet of Ministers in his time. What is that connected with? In your opinion, were they reborn when the came to power and turned into rebels or were they rebels and you simply failed to see them for what they were in good time.

[Aliyev] Guseynov, who you named, was never an ally of mine. I did not know him. You know that after I came to Azerbaijan from Moscow in 1990 — well, they did not give me the chance. They hounded me out of Baku and I settled in Nakhichevan and I lived in Nakhichevan from then on. I did not know who Guseynov was and, incidentally, his name was mentioned in the press and on television, but before I came to Baku I had not even seen his face on television; so he never was my ally.

[Parfenov] I mean that you got on with him, at least for a time.

[Aliyev] I want to talk precisely about that. I made his acquaintance in 1993 when he and his armed group, rather gang, which had formed inside the armed forces of Azerbaijan then, began to march on Baku and overthrew the authorities in some areas. I was invited to Baku and it was put to me that I should take part in order to defuse the situation, and naturally I asked what the conditions were for that. It was one thing for me to take part as a man who enjoyed authority, but I wanted to know what I would have, what I would possess, and so on. They offered me the posts, first of all, of prime minister, then as chairman of the parliament. But I asked whom was I to deal with, what I should do. Then I found out that Abulfaz Elchibey was in power — that is the National Front — and that it was Guseynov who was carrying out the coup. Incidentally, he was completely in league with him — they gave him important posts — but Surat Guseynov and his armed forces were moving towards Baku. He arrived in Baku and naturally he could not fight against me and we held talks with him.

At that time he believed that he was overthrowing the president and that he himself should become president. I explained to him that he could not become president but at the same time, in view of the situation, I agreed that he should be prime minister and he worked as prime minister. But he was not my ally and he, evidently, was used to getting what he wanted and he embarked upon the path of preparing that coup. Incidentally, there was prior information that he was preparing that coup. All of that happened in October, in early October, after I went to New York and came back. The information came in a few months before that. But I received that information and warned him, but instead... [pauses] I thought that it would not happen, but at the same time I knew that if it did happen, we were capable of averting it. Therefore, he is not my ally. [passage omitted]

[Parfenov] What is the difference between the positions today, between the interpretations of Azerbaijan and Russia on the question of the Caspian Sea sectors?

[Aliyev] There are differences, you see, but it is not a matter of these differences. The fact of the matter is that oil has been extracted from the Caspian Sea for a long time now. Oil has been extracted from the Caspian Sea on a large-scale industrial basis since 1949, for 45 years. When Azerbaijan began to deal only with its own affairs, naturally, it began to pay more attention to them and it began to hold talks with foreign companies and the question of sectors, and the question of the status of the Caspian Sea was not on the agenda.

In September 1994 we finally signed a contract and we signed the contract all together and Russia signed that contract, too, in the person of the Lukoil company. That contract was signed not only by the president of Lukoil, but by the deputy minister of fuel and power engineering of Russia. And literally a few days afterwards, a staff member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia issued a statement that said that it did not recognize that contract. That is a joke! Then, after a while the question arose of the status of the Caspian sea.

[Parfenov] What do you think that status should be? That of a world sea with all the usual characteristics: shelves, a coast line, or is it internal waters? It is, ultimately, a lake or a sea?

[Aliyev] You know, that is such a complex question. We engage in extracting oil in our sector and that sector was defined in the time of the Soviet Union by a decision of the USSR petroleum industry ministry when they began to expand policy for extracting oil in the Caspian Sea. That is, if we used to extract oil close to the shore of Azerbaijan, we then began to extract oil near the coast of Turkmenistan. But we were all part of the Soviet Union; we were one. Nevertheless, I recall — I was the head of Azerbaijan, I have a good knowledge of these affairs — the oil that was extracted in the coastal zone of Turkmenistan was considered to be Turkmenistan's and the oil that was extracted in the coastal zone of Azerbaijan was considered to be Azerbaijan's. If Russia is the lawful successor of the Soviet Union, it should respect everything that there was under the Soviet Union. Therefore, we are not going

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beyond the framework of the traditions, of precedent, of everything which has evolved. But if a definition of the Caspian is required in the greater scheme of things, a definition of whether it is a lake, a sea, or internal waters or whatever, then a great deal of work is needed on that. However, we have clearly demonstrated our desire to cooperate with Russia by signing on 10 November a new contract. However, that contract is for the new Karabakh field where 50 percent of the shares belong to the Russian company Lukoil.

[Parfenov] I wanted to ask about that contract. Lukoil really does have a very high percentage of the shares. Why is that? Is it a recognition of Lukoil's place in the Baku oil market today, is it an assessment of the investment that Lukoil has made or is it a gesture of political compromise towards Russia?

[Aliyev] We no longer proceed from political considerations here. We proceed from the possibilities of developing the field. We need to extract oil in our sector and we cooperate with whoever shows an active interest in this. The American company Penzoil has been working actively in that field for a long time now. It has a large share. The Italian company Agip has shown an interest and it is cooperating actively with Lukoil. We also made representations to them and to Lukoil in Russia, too. So you can think what you like. There are commercial interests here. There are also interstate interests here. And there are political interests here.

[Parfenov] I would like to ask another question in connection with this concerning the decision made somewhat earlier. I mean the decision about the route to be taken by the pipeline. It will go through both Georgia and Russia. That is also a compromise, a compromise born of business considerations, of commercial considerations, expedient from the economic point of view. Or is that commerce and politics, too?

[Aliyev] Both. [laughing] [passage omitted]

[Parfenov] From what time do you consider yourself to be a politician? From the time you became head of Azerbaijan or before that?

[Aliyev] You know, I never thought about that. Now that many years have gone by, one can think about it sometimes. I was probably a politician a long time before that. Yes, because, when I worked in the state security bodies — and incidentally, I dealt more with political analysis, general political questions, than with any criminal questions, I will tell you that frankly — it was fate.

I will tell you frankly that in practically every republic, presidents struggle for that, enter into battle, put forward their candidacy, and so forth, fight for that, and they fought here, too, before I came to power. I did not fight for it. I came here and chased Elchibey out of here. I was alone here for four of five months with that gang, and essentially, it was a gang. Do you see, there was Surat Guseynov, and others in the south, Isa Gambatov [former chairman of parliament]? I was alone. There was no one. Those who worked with me were helpless in this respect and they turned out to be dishonest with regard to me. I did not want them around me. I did not know the new people. I was alone night and day and I busy with that, and, well, the president had to be elected, it could not be otherwise. A referendum was held. Abulfaz Elchibey was given a vote of no-confidence, but a president had to be elected. Aliyev was proposed as president. I did not put myself forward as presidential candidate. I was put forward everywhere.

Then, it seems, that to become president you have to announce your program and travel around. I did not go anywhere. I did not announce a program. I should have waged a pre-election campaign with the assistance of people I trusted, but I refused to do all that and said: You put me forward — if you want to elect me president, elect me. If you do not want to elect me, elect whomever you want. I do not have any claims on that.

[Parfenov] I would like to ask several short questions which require short replies. When the next elections are held in Azerbaijan do you intend to put forward you candidacy?

[Aliyev] Yes.

[Parfenov] Your colleague Eduard Shevardnadze, trying to define the foreign policy priorities of his republic which was then part of the Union once said that for Georgia the sun rises in the north. Where does the sun rise for Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] It is well known where the sun rises. Nobody can change the place where the sun rises.

[Parfenov] When you became a Moscow pensioner and all the newspapers wrote about you as a guilty party in Soviet stagnation, did you think that you would return to politics again?

[Aliyev] That period, that injustice was very difficult for me to bear. I did not think that I would return, not because I considered it impossible, but because I did not want to. Fate turned out otherwise.

[Parfenov] Can you imagine yourself at rest?

[Aliyev] Practically not.

[Parfenov] And the last question. Can politics make a person happy?

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[Aliyev] It can, depending upon how a man views politics. If a man views politics as the purpose of his life and at the same time as means for serving the people and society, that makes a man happy.

[Parfenov] Thank you Mr. President for that conversation and for finding the time on what is such a busy day for you.

[Aliyev] Thank you. [passage omitted]

Observers Deny Rushing To Judgment on Poll

NC1411143295 Baku TURAN in English 1206 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku/14.11.95/TURAN—A meeting of the international observers taking part in the elections on November 12 took place yesterday at the "Azerbaijan" hotel. The observers from the UN, OSCE and EC and other international organisations exchanged the information on the course of parliamentary elections and the referendum on the new Constitution. The meeting was held behind the closed doors and without participation of journalists. However, according to an observer who did not want to name himself, a lot of violations of law were fixed during the election process.

The observers had fixed the cases of interference of police and executive bodies of Baku's districts and the republic into the elections procedure. There were facts of pressure on the observers from the oppositional political parties. International observers also noted that most of violations took place when the counting of votes began.

At the same time, according to western sources, on the eve, the OSCE issued a statement in which the elections in Azerbaijan were called "non democratic". A representative of law protection organisation "Human Rights Helsinki Watch" stated to the radio station "Liberty" that elections in Azerbaijan "should not be recognised."

An international observer told TURAN that the observers in Baku do not hurry to make a final conclusion on the elections. Some of them said that any sharp assessment of the results of elections can cause a damage to the international image of the country and the enmies of Azerbaijan would take an advantage of it.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sums Up Moscow Karabakh Talks

NC1411161395 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] During the new round of Azerbaijan-Armenian talks in Moscow and the OSCE Minsk Group session, SHARQ [East] News Agency reports that cochairmen of OSCE Minsk Group Valentin Lozinskiy and Heikki Talvitie have included the Lachin region on the timetable concerning the liberation of the occupied lands.

This was stated in an interview to SHARQ News Agency by Tofik Zulfugarov, deputy foreign minister and head of the Azerbaijani delegation. According to him, the plan envisages the liberation of Lachin 90 days after the termination of the conflict and the signing of the major peace agreement which provides for the peacekeeping operations. According to Tofik Zulfugarov, a number of proposals were put forward concerning the Lachin problem during the Moscow talks. Azerbaijan's position was the liberation of all occupied lands, including Shusha and Lachin, the return of the refugees, the restoration of the local administrations and of the communications, and the implementation of a special regime for the Lachin road. In Tofik Zulfugarov's opinion, the Armenian side does not appear ready to resolve the problem and considers the liberation of Lachin as a danger for Nagorno-Karabakh. In addition, the Armenian side does not trust the OSCE peacekeeping forces and considers the control of the Lachin road vital by its own military units.

The deputy minister said that another round of talks will be held on this issue in Bonn on 22 November.

Georgia

Prosecutor Confirms Arrest of Opposition Leader Ioseliani

LD1511103995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0946 GMT 15 Nov 95

[By Tengiz Pachkoria]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TBILISI, November 16 (Itar-Tass) — Georgian opposition leader Dzhaba Ioseliani was arrested Wednesday morning, republic's Public Prosecutor Dzhamlet Babilashvili told TASS today.

The arrest of the head of the 3,000-strong paramilitary "Mkhedrioni" (Horsemen) organisation and one of the most powerful political rivals of the Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze was sanctioned on August 30.

A search in Ioseliani's office yielded unregistered fire arms and drugs. Police searched offices in the government building after a carbomb assassination attempt against Shevardnadze. However until now, the arrest was impossible as Ioseliani was immune being a member of the previous parliament.

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Shevardnadze Discusses Election Results, Economy

LD1311152795 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0636 GMT 13 Nov 95

[Interview with Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council of Georgia, by correspondent Nato Oniani; place not given — live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Oniani] Mr. Shevardnadze, the past week contifnued to be influenced by the 5 November elections, and if you allow me, I will begin today's interview with the subject of the elections. Out of the participating 54 parties and blocs, only three political organizations managed to gain seats in the parliament. Can it be regarded as a precondition for having an uninteresting and inactive parliament? Or perhaps on the contrary — less attention toward the parliament will enhance control over the Cabinet of Ministers, and hence the interest for economic processes will increase.

[Shevardnadze] Good morning. First, a very general view of life during the past week. This time I will give less time to the economic situation. We will resume the practice in our future interviews.

The past week — you were quite right to state it as you did — the people's attention focused on the election results and analysis. It is clear that the development of the Georgian state is entering a new phase. A strong executive institution, headed by the president of the country, is being created in Georgia. A convincing victory by the head of state proves that the majority of the nation supports the course of reforms carried out by him, including the economic reform, as well as the fundamental principles and directions that were presented in the election speech. Incidentally, that election speech was not only a program for the president. It was my view of the place that parliament has to hold at this decisive stage of rebuilding the country. This must have promoted the coming of political forces, which support the program, to the parliament. The outcome of the parliamentary election is an after effect of unavoidable consolidation of the political forces. Now, more comfortable conditions are being created for legislative activities of the parliament. [passage omitted]

It is natural that the authorities are prepared to exercise constructive and effective cooperation with all the parties and movements that found themselves outside the parliament. I must emphasize that the initiative for cooperation with opposition forces that failed to gain seats in the parliament should come from the authorities. I also mean that persons who are useful for, and needed by, the state; professionals in the first instance, must be given appropriate posts, regardless of their party affiliation. This sort of attitude toward the issue will be the first sign of the recognition of the common interest, rather than the party interest as the supreme cause at this crucial stage of our life. [passage omitted: Importance of cooperation for revival of the economy]

I have heard from other sources and through various channels that it is thought that the parliament will be bland, and that it will have an authoritative will imposed upon it. There will be quite a broad spectrum of forces in the parliament, considering the deputies elected on an individual basis. Yet, there exists a real prospect of a so-called constitutional [as heard] majority to be created in the parliament.

I think that the choice made by the citizens of Georgia is not accidental. Our citizens differ from what they were a few years ago. Nearly everyone realizes today that a job cannot be done amid boundless and aimless debates and endless arguments. Purely legislative activity is the principal thing today. [passage omitted]

I believe we have a chance to create an effective model of cooperation between the president and the parliament, which the future generations will be able to use as a pattern. [passage omitted].

It is natural that there is still much to be determined about the ultimate structure of the executive authorities. It is still to be seen what forces will head the parliamentary committees. The budget has to be approved, which, according to the Constitution, must initially be discussed by the committees. We want to deal with it this year, and approve the budget before the end of the year. And much more. I will not elaborate on the issues of appointing ministers, and so on. Therefore, it is advisable that the results of the elections should be made legal as soon as possible, and of course in compliance with the law on elections, and as stipulated by the constitution. This is my view of the post-election situation. [Oniani] Yet another question with regard to the elections. You will probably agree that the past three years have been very difficult years for Georgia. The Tskhinvali conflict has not been settled. Abkhazia is still under illegal rule. We can add the reform of the economy, the loss of numerous jobs, unrealistic salaries, lots of ruined hopes, and so forth.

During the election campaign there were many strong allegations against certain individuals, and against you as the supreme ruler, against the course you have been conducting. Despite this, about 75 percent of Georgia's population supported you and voted for you. How do you account for this? Why did it happen? [passage omitted] The past three years have been very difficult. You and the country and the people have lived through these difficulties together. Despite these difficulties,

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and despite the fact that reformers and the authorities carrying out reforms are hardly ever popular, you won the elections with such a high percentage of votes. What do you think is the main reason?

[Shevardnadze] I have thought a lot about this significant turn of events. I will give you a very general answer. We will return to this issue later, in my future appearances on the radio.

The choice of president made by the population resulted from a sophisticated analysis and serious thoughts given by them to the issue. You are absolutely right that a natural question arises — why Shevardnadze again? Why do we not try another variant? We may probably have a better life. We may probably escape from the crisis sooner. We are dealing with a case of Georgian citizens' becoming wiser. They have good understanding of circumstances. [passage omitted. Recalls tours of regions] They were well aware of what could be done, and what was beyond the abilities of the leader. The population also realized that we had no sign of a state about three years ago. Your question implied this — what were we three years ago?

Today, we are more or less at another stage. We can now speak not only about hopes, but also about actual advance, an actual foundation upon which a new democratic and strong country will be built.

I would say that we all have been taught by God Almighty, and He helped us to turn toward the correct and realistic path. He taught us that under no circumstances should we continue living with illusions, and that our life will depend on our activities and work. This is the path that will lead the country to its unity and integrity. We can already speak about the ripening of the factors that will enable us to settle the most vital and sensitive problems of our country. Even more so, the people have rejected any kind of populism, demagogy, and boundless criticism, and prefer the unvarnished, although bitter truth, and the most complicated, although the most realistic program of escaping from the crisis, which I offered them without concealing all the difficulties. This is how I account for this complicated turn of events in general.

[Oniani] You spoke about the parties that failed to gain seats in the parliament, and about possible cooperation with them. Certain organizations have openly called for deposing the authorities, although later some of them denied this. I would say that given the present-day activity of the police, appeals of this sort are less dangerous than they could have been, say, two years ago. Last Friday, the national police celebrated their professional festival. Our police have definitely gained a higher rating, and you have praised their activities, but the police will have new tasks in the new country.

[Shevardnadze] Naturally. I would like to reiterate that the Georgian police, headed by minister Shota Kviraia and his colleagues, and supported by the authorities, have made a great contribution to securing stability in the country. What they have achieved in such a short time is almost unbelievable. I would like to point out a serious role played by the Georgian Prosecutor's Office in establishing order. I have to mention the Justice Ministry, the positive changes that occurred in the activities of the courts of justice. The Security Service is healing its wounds. Yet, it is desirable that the process of healing develop more vigorously, and involve the cadre policy. We can see that Georgia's regular troops are already organized. This is one the the main features of the state, the main feature of the strength and sovereignty of the country. We already have a real force, a real army.

In these circumstances, statements by irresponsible individuals about deposing the authorities, especially now that the authorities have gained the people's overwhelming support, point to not only their vanity and the lack of responsibility, but also their final bankruptcy.

Our advance cannot be stopped by acts of subversion, which still occur. For instance, the incident that occurred in Kareli District a few days ago, the day before yesterday to be more precise. A support pylon of a 500-kW high-voltage power line was blown up. This may be one of the last attempts to fight. This is also terrorism. This is an act similar to the 29 August terrorist act [attempt on Shevardnadze's life]. However, this one was directed not against an individual, but against the people and the state.

This explosion seriously hindered the supply of electricity to the population and the national economy. [passage omitted. Energy Department promises to restore the line soon] An order was issued to the Security Service by the head of state; the perpetrators will be discovered and punished. [passage omitted: More electricity to be provided this winter than last year. Generating units being restored at Tbilisi thermal power station] Any appeals for unlawful activities will be thwarted by law, by the force of law, by the force of the Constitution.

Our people voted for a strong president and a strong parliament. Strong authorities will be able to enhance order, and will actually promote the development of democracy, the supremacy of human rights of the citizens. I would say that democracy has gained a victory in Georgia, and this process is irreversible. We must take care of every individual citizens and guarantee him his human rights. This will be restated when the

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present head of state and the future president will take an oath in front of the people.

[Oniani] We often report on an event of major importance. The lates is that the Caspian Sea oil will be carried through Georgia. This is very important not only economically but also, and probably in the first instance, politically. It is significant that Terry Adams, president of the International Oil Consortium, arrived in Tbilisi and met with you.

[Shevardnadze] I have repeatedly stated that Georgia is gradually establishing itself as an important transit state, one of the main junction states. All this is developing naturally. We are no rival to any other states. Some malevolent people allege that we are vexing someone, we are annoying someone, we are oppressing someone. Georgia has no capability of oppressing anyone at the moment. We will cooperate with any country which sees our present way of development as being acceptable. We will cooperate with, and consider the interests of any country, when we start making decisions on particular issues. So, any talk about confrontation with certain states is a concoction, and has no grounds. All this is concocted by certain circles here, as well as in those other states. This was once again proved during my meeting with the leaders of the consortium, Mr. Adams and Mr. Aliyev, who represented Azerbaijan, in Tbilisi.

I would like to inform the listeners that by my instruction, the Georgian Consortium has been formed. We have named it this. I hope the name is not too pompous. It is not, in fact. There is a lot to be done by this institution. Many organizations have to participate in the work. I mean the Georgian Railway Department, the Georgian Energy Department, Poti port, Batumi port, electric power complex units, and many others. So, the consortium will amalgamate various organizations. More detailed information on this amalgamation will be published in the press.

I decided to entrust the leadership of the consortium to Mr. Gia Chanturia, our ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Azerbaijan, who has already established good business-like and serious links with appropriate agencies in Azerbaijan, as well as with the international consortium. He will certainly receive help from professionals, but I believe that he is well prepared for this task. [passage omitted]

'Victorious' National-Democrats View Election

AU1511120395 Tbilisi AKHALI TAOBA in Georgian 9 Nov 95 p 1

[BGI report on news conference given by leading members of the National-Democratic Party Mamuka Giorgadze, Irina Sarishvili-Chanturia, and Giorgi Kobakhidze in Tbilisi on 7 November: "The National-Liberation Movement Has Been Saved, Say the National-Democrats"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 7 November, the National-Democratic Party [NDP] held a news conference.

The conference was devoted to the preliminary results of the parliamentary and presidential elections.

Mamuka Giorgadze, a member of the NDP Main Committee, stated that this was the first time that elections had taken place in Georgia without violence or the use of weapons. According to him, there were no serious violations. Three political organizations had gotten into Parliament.

"Our party will try to exert an influence on the newly elected Parliament," stated Mamuka Giorgadze.

Then, journalists asked questions.

[Unidentified correspondent] Yours is the only right-wing force to get into Parliament. Does this signify a defeat for the national-liberation movement?

[Mamuka Giorgadze] Those parties and organizations that did not have a well-formed ideology and were not united as a single political force were the ones to suffer a defeat. The victors were the Union of Georgia's Citizens and the Restoration Union [Union for the Restoration of All-Georgia], which are more state structures and not political organizations. One can say that our party was the only one among Georgia's political parties to be victorious.

[Irina Sarishvili-Chanturia] The fact that the NDP is today in Parliament means that the national-liberation movement in Georgia has been saved.

[Unidentified correspondent] What is your assessment of the political forces that make up the new Parliament?

[Mamuka Giorgadze] There will be a shift of political forces and new parliamentary factions will be formed.

[Unidentified correspondent] What will your position be regarding the stationing of Russian military bases on Georgian territory?

[Irina Sarishvili-Chanturia] We oppose the agreement on the stationing of Russian bases on Georgian territory for 25 years. This is an ineffectual line of foreign policy. As for leaving the CIS, our position on this score will not change anything. When Georgia joined the CIS, all the members of our party gave up their posts in executive power. This step was taken by the authorities to maintain their own positions.

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[Unidentified correspondent] What can you say about the defeat suffered by the Republicans [United Republican Party] and the failure of the Traditionalists [Union of Traditionalists]?

[Giorgi Kobakhidze] They lacked a clearly shaped ideology and were not properly organized. The Republicans put the main emphasis on the personal qualities of their members. This was a mistake. The Traditionalists have no position at all. They did not have their own electorate like, for example, the "XXI [Roman 21] Century" bloc. We recently strengthened our relations with the Republicans and other political organizations and we will continue to cooperate with them, although they have been unable to get into Parliament.

Deputy Defense Minister Cited on Russian Weapons Quotas

MM1511130295 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 2

[Report by Vladimir Statskiy: "The Militarization of Georgia. We Write Figures, But What Is in Our Heads?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi — Evidently it was no accident that the question of quotas for the stationing of weapons and combat hardware on the republic's territory came up at a press conference of the leadership of the Georgian Ministry of Defense.

First Deputy Defense Minister Major General G. Nikolaishvili described the situation. The hardware and weapons quotas were established for the Transcaucasus states too under the Vienna agreements, he said. In accordance with these, it seemed to be possible to station up to 220 tanks, 220 armored combat vehicles, 100 combat airplanes, 50 combat helicopters, and over 280 artillery systems of a caliber of over 100 mm.

In accordance with the treaty signed recently by E. Shevardnadze and V. Chernomyrdin, Russia will be able to have four military bases on Georgian territory (Vaziani, Akhalkalaki, Batumi, and Gudauta in Abkhazia). The Russian side is asking to leave up to 115 tanks, 160 armored combat vehicles, and 170 artillery system units of a caliber of over 100 mm. According to General Nikolaishvili, these figures suit the Georgian side, since the quotas left are entirely sufficient at the current phase of the organizational development of the national armed forces.

The treaty on the siting of Russian military bases contains the following point: If the Georgian side acquires additional combat hardware, the Russian side is automatically deprived of this quantity of equipment (that is, it will be withdrawn). In that case Georgia will temporarily transfer part of the quota for heavy weapons to the Russian Army.

On the initiative of the Georgian side, a frankly "explosive" point to the effect that "unlawful armed formations on the territory of Georgia (in Abkhazia and South Ossetia) must be disarmed and destroyed" has been included in the treaty. That is, they should not be included in the aforesaid quotas. General Nikolaishvili also stressed that...Russia is called upon to make most of the effort in solving the given problem.

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Estonia

Vahi Favors NATO Integration Without Nuclear Arms

LD1411195095 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, Nov 14 (Interfax) — Estonian Prime Minister Tiit Vahi told a press conference in Tallinn today that "Estonia should explain to Russia that its desire to become a member of NATO does not signify the country's intention to introduce first strike or nuclear weapons to its territory."

Vahi said he believed that Russia was "irritated" over Estonia's joining NATO precisely because of possible deployment of first strike weapons or nuclear weapons on its territory.

"We consider membership in the North-Atlantic alliance as a means for increasing our security and stability in the region," Vahi said. "It does not threaten Russia."

With regard to another round of Estonian-Russian talks on border problems which began in Tallinn Tuesday, Vahi said Estonia was ready to cede claims to 2,500 kilometers which Russia received in the post-war years in return for concluding a treaty on the border.

"The treaty's absence have become a handicap for us in many areas," Vahi said.

Vahi said Estonia insisted that the border treaty be based on the Tartu Peace Treaty of 1920. "Talks with Russia have entered into a phase where there is no confrontation between us but we are discussing details," he said.

Vahi said he wanted the treaty to be concluded before elections to the State Duma, Russian parliament's lower chamber.

Chief of General Staff, Guards Commander Replaced

LD1411154695 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1200 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lieutenant-General Aleksander Einseln, commander of the Estonian Defense Forces, relieved Colonel Arvo Sirel, chief of the General Staff, of his duties yesterday, the press service of the Defense Forces' General Staff reported.

Lieutenant-Colonel Manivald Kasepold, commander of the Independent [as heard] Guard Battalion, was also relieved of his duties.

The General Staff's press statement did not give the reasons for the dismissals. According to the BALTIC NEWS SERVICE, yesterday the State Defense Council demanded Sirel's resignation.

The press connects Sirel and Kasepold with the arms affair of Olev Saluste, former chief of the General Staff's finance department, which became public knowledge in the middle of September. [passage omitted]

Einseln appointed air force commander Col Vello Loemaa to the post of acting chief of the General Staff. Lieutenant Voronov is to be the acting commander of the Independent Guard Battalion from today.

Due to the Saluste arms affair, Sirel submitted his resignation on 25 September, but it was not then accepted by Einseln. Lieutenant Riho Uhtegi, head of the General Staff intelligence department, also submitted his resignation at that time. When Sirel submitted his resignation in September, he said that he did not have sufficient knowledge about the unethical activities in the General Staff of the Defense Forces. Sirel was appointed Chief of the General Staff on 18 April 1994, after [Colonel] Ants Laaneots was relieved of his duties in this capacity.

Officials Discuss Border Dispute With Russian Delegation

LD1411195595 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, Nov 14 (Interfax) — Russian and Estonian negotiators launched the next round of talks on the bilateral border dispute in Tallinn Tuesday.

"Consistently with the instructions of the country's supreme leadership, the Estonian delegation will focus on the demarcation of borderline," chief Estonian negotiator, Vice Chancellor Raul Malk told journalists before the talks.

Malk said the two delegations had agreed on the maritime border, but that on the ground remained the stumbling block.

An agreement on border commissars, virtually accomplished at the previous round of talks, is expected to be initialled now, he added.

Ambassador at Large Vasiliy Svirin leads Russia's delegation to the talks, expected to end Wednesday.

When Estonia re-gained independence in 1991, it claimed some 2,500 square kilometers on Russia referring to the 1920 Tartu peace treaty. Now Tallinn is ready to drop its territorial claims in exchange for Russia's recognition of the treaty. Russia is ready to recognize the historical value of the document only.

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Lithuania

No-Confidence Vote in Government Fails To Materialize

LD1411200995 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 14 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A motion of no confidence in the Adolfas Slezevicius' government failed to be carried out.

Today the Lithuanian Seimas discussed the motion of no confidence in the government tabled by the opposition parties. The interpellation was tabled by the Lithuanian Homeland Union and was supported by all opposition parliamentary factions. [passage omitted]

After almost five hours of debate on the motion of no confidence in the Lithuanian Government, the results of the secret ballot were found as follows: 65 ballot papers were distributed, 57 voted in favor of no confidence in the government, five voted against, and three ballot papers were found spoiled.

As the required number of votes fell short, a motion of no confidence in the government failed to materialize. [A majority of 70 votes in a 139-member Seimas needed to pass the motion]

Slezevicius on Failed Vote

LD1511144995 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0830 GMT 15 Nov 95

[Interview with Latvian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius by Vilnius Radio correspondent Adolfas Drungilas, place not given, on 15 November — live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Drungilas] Prime Minister, you look quite cheerful after yesterday's events. The vote means that the government will continue its work, and that its activities will, I hope, be successful. But I would like to start our conversation from the most important recent events other that that which took place yesterday, and we will return to the interpellation issue a bit later in the program.

[Slezevicius] Good morning. Probably one of the most important events was my meeting with Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Chygir on 11 November. Prime Minister Chygir has not been long in his post, yet we have met seven times. True, two of these meetings had taken place in other countries, on various occasions. Our working meetings are quite frequent, allowing us to achieve our main goal: growth in trade with Belaruse. More goods are now being transported through the [Lithuanian] seaport of Klaipeda. This is our main goal.

Border checkpoint normalization has also been discussed. The situation at the Medininkai border checkpoint is totally unacceptable and was discussed. Money to develop the infrastructure and organization must be used to shorten queues and eliminate the mess and chaos. The current situation strongly hampers the passage of goods and provokes popular dissatisfaction. We will see to it that these problems are dealt with by the relevant institutions, first and foremost the border police and the Customs Department.

The most important event was the debate on the nonconfidence in government, initiated by right-wing opposition parties yesterday. Certainly the radio listeners know that the opinions on this issue vary, and the newspapers today carry different commentaries on this matter.

But I would like to repeat what I said yesterday: the main tune of the interpellation was that everything that had been done before the elections in 1992 was excellent, and whatever is being done now is detrimental to Lithuania and the Lithuanian people. However, we are far from imagining that we do not make any mistakes. That is why I cannot agree with Mrs. Valentina Luksiene from Utena, who asked: why is it that the prime minister never admits his mistakes? We recognize and admit the mistakes that we make, but we cannot accept and we will not accept in the future any absurd accusations and incomprehensible proposals. For instance, one of the proposals from the opposition is that our national currency must be devalued. I think you will agree that every Lithuania citizen, our country on the whole and every businessperson highly benefit from the fact that the stability of our currency is guaranteed. There is no doubt about it: the gold reserve is growing at a speed unseen before. The amount by which the hard currency reserve is increased every month is nearly twice as big as the whole amount of hard currency reserve accumulated during the first three years of independence [from 1990 to 1992].

[Drungilas] We increase our reserves, but at the same time we draw foreign loans, do we not?

[Slezevicius] It is a perfectly normal process. There is not a single country, especially a young country like Lithuania, which would be able to put its economy in order without foreign loans. The locally available credit resources are insufficient. There was yet another proposal: to use the gold and hard currency reserve for crediting local economy. This proposal is difficult to understand. Even a first year economics student will realize that this proposal essentially means doubling the amount of money in circulation. The national currency has been put into circulation by the central bank, which was buying hard currency. Putting these reserves into circulation would mean doubling the amount of

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money in circulation without increasing the amount of goods and services, which is otherwise known as inflation. This would mean devaluing people's savings and people's money and provoking chaos in the state. It is highly regrettable that our opposition is capable of generating only proposals of this kind. It is a real problem of our political life — to have such a weak an opposition. [passage omitted].

[Slezevicius] Now I would like to return to the most essential problems. The most vital task [of our government] is dealing with the social problems of the people, because without this issue being solved other matters do not matter much to our country.

We achieved a considerable progress in developing and intensifying a well-balanced and pragmatic foreign policy. Maybe you remember that at the time when the government and the present parliamentary majority started its work, there was a lot of criticism about the foreign policy that we conducted. Now, even the interpellation failed to mention this area.

[Drungilas] What about our relations with Latvia?

[Slezevicius] Well, Latvia was mentioned only during the debate, but this issue, in fact, has not been mentioned in the text of interpellation, and this means that the opposition assesses the government's foreign policy in a favorable manner.

But the social policies are the main issue. That is why we increased the proportion of funds allocated to the social causes in our next year's budget. No doubt, we are unable to allocate as much funds as we, let alone the Lithuanian people, would like to. However, the current trends [of increasing social spendings] must be maintained.

We plan to significantly increase the minimum statutory salary in 1996. Presently, the figure stands at 180 litas per month, and in the beginning of 1995 this figure was smaller by a factor of 2.8. We committed ourselves to increase it so that the figure would reach at least 300 litas by the end of 1996. The average [old age] pension currently stands at just under 190 litas per month, and our task is to make it at least 260 litas by the end of 1996. In the nearest future we shall make decisions concerning the minimum statutory pensions, as well. It will not require any change of legislation, and only by government resolutions some additional payments will be made, so that the people who receive smallest pensions could benefit from a more substantial states support. At the current stage, it is essential to protect those who have the smallest income, both by discounted rates of utility charges and by various additional benefits.

A very important and strategic issue is salaries of teachers, doctors and workers of the cultural sphere. These categories of people must receive much more attention than now.

It is strange that all these measures which we announce and our promises to allocate more money for social causes are described as political cynicism by some politicians. They say that we use taxpayers' money for solving social problems. These politicians must realize that our country has no other resources than the budget revenue for solving social problems. [passage omitted]

[Drungilas] What about the number of unemployed people? Is their number growing or not?

[Slezevicius] The rate of unemployment is growing, albeit slowly. The growth is most significant in Taurage District and in certain districts of Zemaitija [northwestern Lithuania]. [passage omitted] The share of those officially unemployed is 3 percent; the percentage of those looking for job is 6 percent. It is fair to say that these figures do not fully reflect the unemployment situation, since there are many people who are involved in one or another kind of labour activities and are not registered at the labour exchange.

Fighting unemployment and creating jobs is very important. This problem cannot be solved without foreign investments and foreign credit resources. Therefore, one of the areas where the government's work should become more active is attracting foreign investors.

The investors should enjoy better conditions. We are permanently examining the reasons which do not allow foreign investors to feel comfortable in our country. In the nearest future, we will have a meeting, in which Seimas [parliament] members and cabinet ministers will take part, with representatives of foreign companies, who already have an experience of activities in Lithuania. We will discuss the problems with them, and the business climate - is it favourable or not to foreign investors.

For example, today I had a meeting with a vice president of Statoil [oil company], and he said that conditions for investments in Lithuania are rather favourable, despite this most actively promoted idea that everything in Lithuania is wrong. Money is stable, political situation is stable, the taxes are quite low. [passage omitted]

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